



Society News

The Bulletin of the Enfield Archaeological Society



Top: EAS assisting with a geophysical survey at Cedars Park. See *Pastfinders News*, p. 8.

Above: Remains of a Roman well at Bush Hill Park. See p. 4 for the excavation report.

Forthcoming Events:

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 - 14 Feb: Archaeology of Iraqi Kurdistan
 - Full 2014 programme inside (and also on enclosed programme card)*

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- 5 Excavations at Cedars Park Oct 2012 – July 2013 (TPL12 & THE13)

- 8 Pastfinders News

Society News is published quarterly in March, June, September and December. The Editor is Jeremy Grove

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www.enfarchsoc.org

<http://enfieldarchaeology.wordpress.com/>

Meetings are held at Jubilee Hall, 2 Parsonage Lane, Enfield (*near Chase Side*) at 8pm. Tea and coffee are served and the sales and information table is open from 7.30pm. Visitors, who are asked to pay a small entrance fee of £1.00, are very welcome.

Forthcoming events

Forthcoming EAS lectures:

January

Winter break - No lecture

14th February

By the waters of Nineveh. The archaeology of Iraqi Kurdistan

Ian Jones, EAS

14th March

Remarkable pots and extraordinary uses – some unusual byways of archaeological ceramics

Jacqui Pearce FSA MifA, Joint Editor, Post-Medieval Archaeology

11th April

Excavations & Fieldwork of Enfield Archaeology Society 2013 & AGM

Dr Martin Dearne & Mike Dewsbrey

16th May

Life and death in Pompeii and Herculaneum

Paul Roberts, Curator, Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities, British Museum

13th June

Walbrook Square excavations and Temple of Mithras

John Shepard, Consultant Archaeologist

4th July

The Geoffrey Gillam Memorial Lecture - Terror from The Skies. The Air War on Enfield 1914 -1918

Ian Jones, EAS

12th September

Presidential Address - The Rose Discovered and The Rose Revealed
Harvey Sheldon, EAS President

17th October

Life and death in 19th Century London
Michael Henderson Senior Human Osteologist MOLA (Museum of London Archaeology)

14th November

Roman Sculpture from South-East England
Francis Grew, Senior Curator (Archaeology) and Archive Manager, Museum of London

December

Winter break – no meeting

EAS Fieldwork



The Society carries out a busy programme of excavation and other activities.

Please contact Mike Dewsbrey on 01707 870888 (office number) for more details if you are interested.

Blog: <http://enfieldarchaeology.wordpress.com/>
Website: <http://www.enfarchsoc.org/>

Meetings of other Societies

EDMONTON HUNDRED HISTORICAL SOCIETY 7.45 for 8pm, Jubilee Hall, Enfield, unless otherwise stated

15 Jan (2.15 for 2.30pm)	Switched On: the story of electricity	Alick Barnett
21 Feb (7.30pm, All Saints Church Hall, Church St, N9)	Tributaries of the Lea: the work of Thames 21	Aimee Felus
19 Mar	AGM and Southgate Films	Colin Barratt
10 Apr	War Diary: Letters from the Home Front	Trinity Players

HENDON & DISTRICT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY 7.45 for 8.00pm Avenue House, 17 East End Road, Finchley

12 Nov	Lions on Kunulua – Excavations of Early Bronze & Iron Age periods at Tell Tayinat, Hatay, Turkey	Fiona Haughey
14 Jan	The Naval Graveyards of Greenwich	Malcolm Godfrey
11 Feb	Lecture to be confirmed	
11 Mar	The Sandridge Coin Hoard	David Thorold
8 Apr	Restoring House Mill	Brian James-Strong

WEST ESSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP 7.45pm, Woodford County High School, High Rd, Woodford Green

10 Feb	From log boat to Warrior: Development of the wooden vessel in N Europe	Elliott Wragg
10 Mar (at 7.30pm)	AGM & Presidential Address	Harvey Sheldon
14 Apr	Local Military Archaeology	Guy Taylor

WALTHAM ABBEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 8pm, Parish Centre, Abbey Gardens, Waltham Abbey

16 Jan	The Markfield beam engine	Ken Brereton
20 Feb	Pottage to Peacocks: a day in the life of Kentwell Hall in the Tudor period	Maureen Poole
20 Mar	Puddephatt Memorial Lecture: To be confirmed	

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION NORTH LONDON BRANCH 7.45 for 8.00pm Jubilee Hall, Enfield

14 Jan	King James I	David Smith
11 Feb	Tulipmania	Anne Goldgar
11 Mar	More Friends than Enemies? The Kings of England and Scotland in the 12th Century	Alice Taylor
8 Apr	Rome in the Early Middle Ages	Antonio Sennis

LONDON AND MIDDLESEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY 6.30pm Museum of London, EC1

14 Jan	The Cheapside Hoard	Hazel Forsyth
11 Feb	AGM and Presidential Address	Martin Biddle
11 Mar	The More: Rickmansworth's Royal Palace	Heather Falvey
8 Apr	From Coal Sacks to Treasures: Roman Small Finds from the Walbrook Valley	Michael Marshall

POTTERS BAR & DISTRICT HIST. SOCIETY 8pm Wylyotts Centre, Wylyotts Place, Darkes Lane, Potters Bar, EN6 2HN

12 Nov	Michael Faraday in London	Frank James
31 Jan	Cromer: the Last of Hertfordshire's Windmills	Robin Webb
25 Feb	The Bayeux Tapestry – a Play in 3 Acts	Gary Fisher
28 Mar	Samuel Ryder, Seedsman, Golfer & Friend of St Albans	John Cox

Membership subscriptions – due 1 Jan

Please remember your membership falls due for renewal on 1 January 2014, irrespective of when you joined the society, unless you joined after 30 September 2013.

Please send the enclosed Renewal Form, together with the appropriate sum, to the Membership Secretary, Lesley Pinchbeck, 68 Tynemouth Drive, Enfield, Middlesex, EN1 4LT.

The rates are again unchanged from last year:

Ordinary Members: £ 9.00
Joint Memberships: £13.00
Junior Members: £ 4.50

Joint Membership is defined as any number of named persons residing at one address and receiving a single copy of Society News.

New members who joined the Society after 30 September 2013 need take no action, as their subscriptions are valid until 31 December 2014.

Recent Work in the Bush Hill Park Roman Settlement

By Martin J Dearne

The society continues to keep a watch on new house extensions in and around the area of the Bush Hill Park Roman settlement, and where possible excavate or undertake watching briefs, while also working towards the publication of a monograph on Roman Enfield. All past excavations of Roman sites in Enfield, except for the large one at Lincoln Road in 1974–6, have now been thoroughly reassessed and new reports written. The Lincoln Road archive will hopefully have been reassessed by spring 2014, allowing the re-publishing in the monograph of an expanded version of the original 1977 report which appeared in the Transactions of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society.

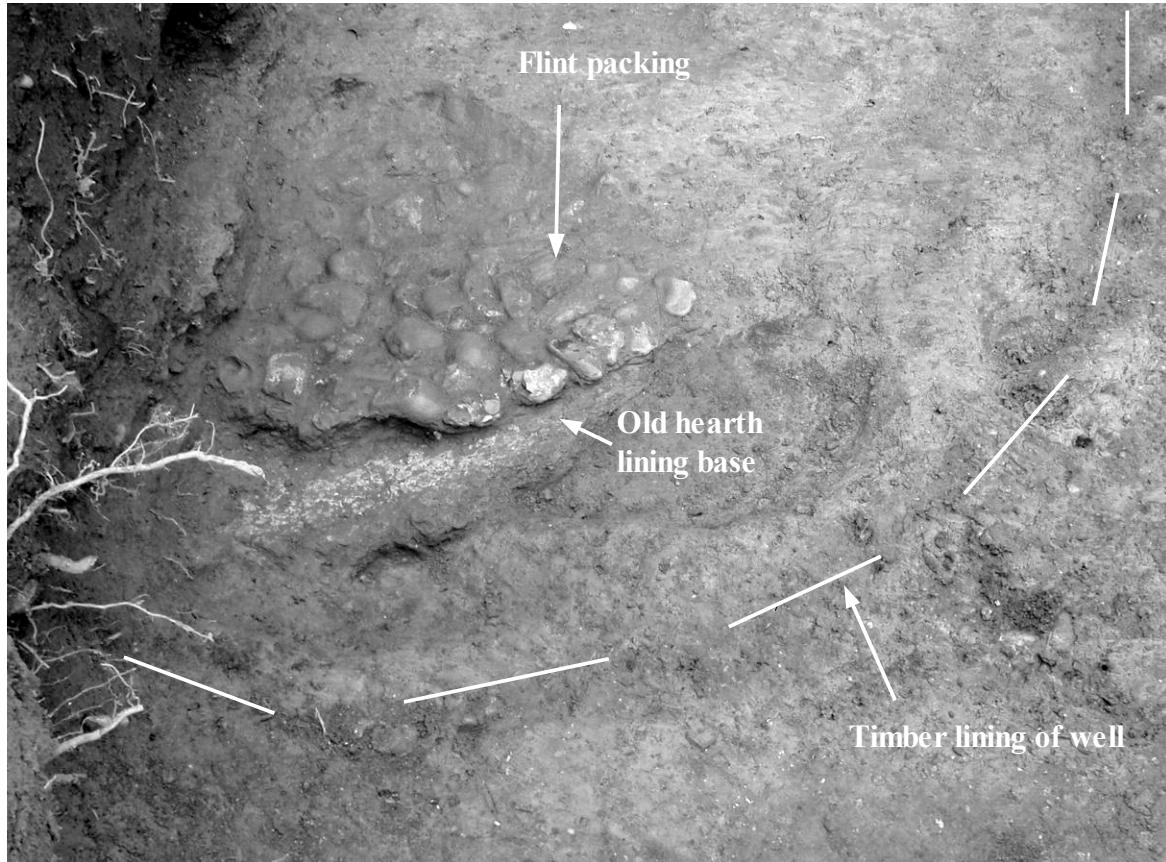
The latest sites to be examined just by the EAS, in 2012 and 2013, were at 104 Leighton Rd and 88 Landseer Rd (site code LDR13), where any Roman features had been removed by the building of the standing houses; and at 52 Ermine

Side (site code ERM11). Here there may have been some disturbance when houses were built in 1903, but all the signs were that this site lay in what we increasingly believe was a strip of unused land between the settlement itself and Ermine Street.

This interpretation has been strengthened by the preliminary results from a series of watching briefs and small excavations carried out in late 2012 and early 2013 by Museum of London Archaeology (MoLA) with EAS backup at multiple properties in Leighton Road where Enfield Homes have been installing prefabricated house extensions.

Thus, little or no archaeology was present on the east side of the road except for a probable slip road from Ermine Street (which by implication must now lay a little further east than we used to assume) into the settlement. This road had already been identified by Les Whitmore and Roger Dormer in an excavation in 1987/8.

By contrast on the western side several ditches and finds scatters were recorded (full details still awaited) and a particularly interesting feature, which a team from the EAS led by the author excavated. This was a late Roman timber-lined well (only the top of which was excavated) which had been backfilled, but leaving a sunken area in which a fairly sophisticated ?industrial hearth had been built. Re-using the fired clay lining from some other hearth as a base, it had been packed with flints in brickearth to act as a heat reservoir



The Hearth Built in the Former Well (After Removal of its Fired Clay Top)

Photo: Neil Pinchbeck

before the actual clay hearth, fired to a bright orange colour, had been built on top. There was no indication of what it had been used for, but some process requiring a stable temperature to be maintained over time may be indicated.

Work will continue as the opportunity arises and we hope to include a full report on the MoLA work and all past excavations in the monograph. It is hoped that this might appear in the next two to three years.

MARTIN DEARNE

Excavations at Cedars Park October 2012 – July 2013 (Site Codes TPL12 & THE13)

By Martin J Dearne

EAS work here, often in partnership with Museum of London Archaeology (MoLA), continued through late 2012 and into the summer of 2013. As well as continuing to assist MoLA with recording walls belonging to Theobalds Palace and later Georgian structures as the Heritage

Lottery Fund supported revamp of the park proceeded, we took on two of the outstanding excavations which needed doing.

In October 2012 we cut exploratory trenches in the former Great Garden (later Fruit Garden) on the site in advance of the installation of one of many new information points. Results here were largely negative in the sense that even late nineteenth century ornamental features known from OS maps had largely gone and been replaced by a large pebble spread in the 1950s, dated by part of a toy batsman identified by Neil Pinchbeck.

However, in July 2013, during the annual Festival of Archaeology, we undertook excavations and surveys partly in the scheduled area to try and unravel something of the history of the Privy or King's Private Garden belonging to the palace.

Not all the areas we had intended to examine were available, as reconstruction work on the sixteenth or seventeenth century perimeter wall to the garden was going on, but we managed to add to what had been discovered from earlier MoLA work, in which we had been involved.

The area is a now largely overgrown walled space full of trees at the north west edge of the palace site which a seventeenth century map by a man called Thorpe suggests was once subdivided by another wall and which may have originated as part of the water gardens established by William

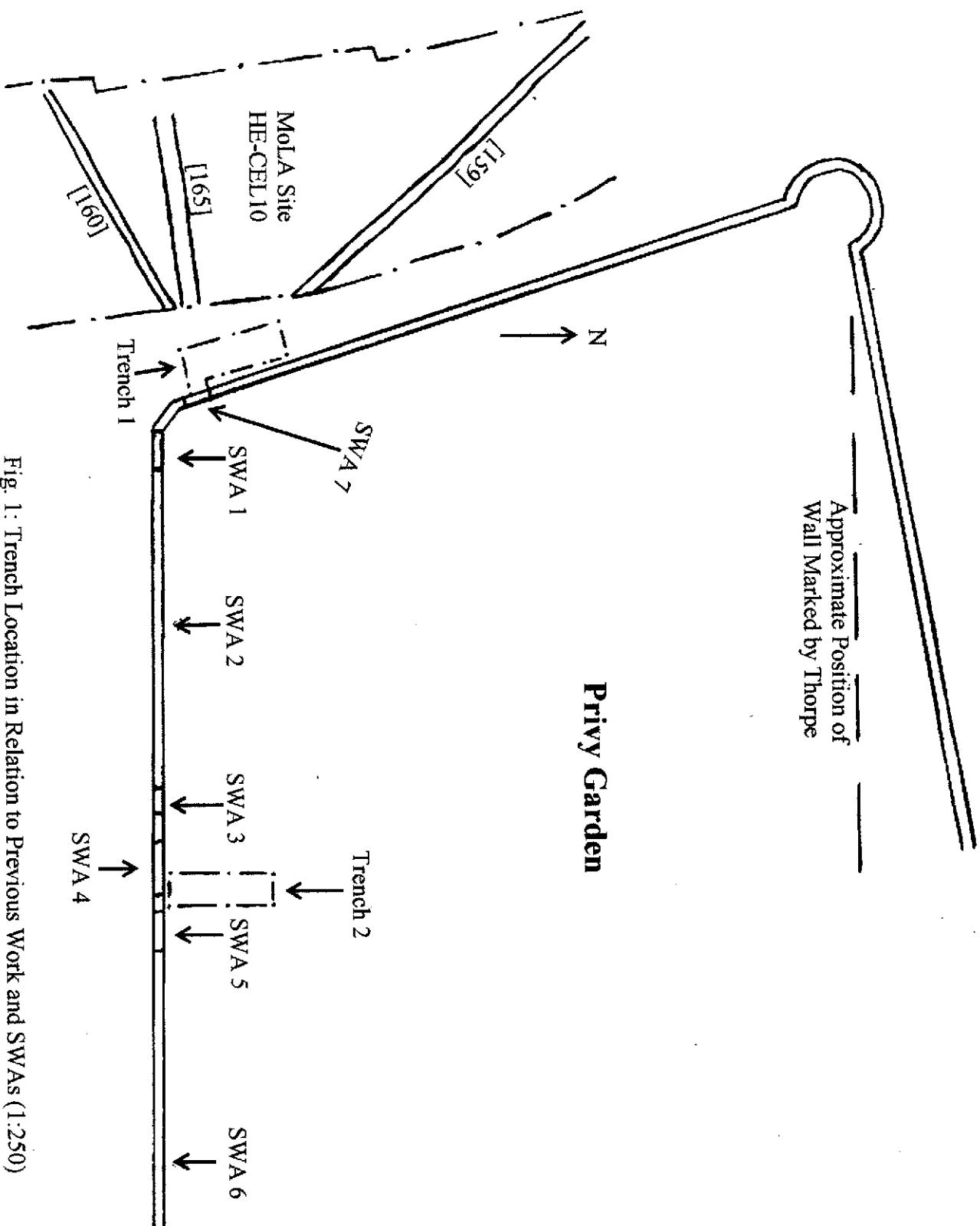


Fig. 1: Trench Location in Relation to Previous Work and SWAs (1:250)

Cecil between 1564 and 1585 before the palace was acquired by James I and VI in 1607.

A survey of the boundary wall revealed several features and areas of rebuilding (SWA (Standing Wall Areas) 1 – 7 on Fig. 1) that suggest that in the process, and perhaps later when the area was part of a private nineteenth century school, quite a lot of modification had taken place. They included niches built into the wall and later blocked (Fig. 1 SWA 2 and 6), but in particular three windows/doors close together (SWA 3 – 5) which clearly had complex histories.



Fig. 2: The Projecting Bay (Photo Neil Pinchbeck)

Our excavations at the (now largely collapsed) centre of the three showed that it at least had once been part of a projecting bay in the wall (Fig. 2) and this led to further work on these features by MoLA, the results of which are, at the time of writing, not yet known. However, the suspicion is that these could have been alcoves with windows and seats and may go back to the time of Cecil.

The earlier MoLA work (Fig. 1 site HE-CEL10) had also found three converging brick built water supply channels heading for the Privy Garden and we found evidence that these pre-dated the west wall of the Privy Garden. Thus, that marked [159] had been entirely removed as it approached the wall, while we found the remnants of that marked [165] (which that marked [160] will presumably have joined just west of our Trench 1) blocked and cut through by the same wall (Fig. 3).

This wall is known to have been here by 1611, even if a door in it had subsequently been blocked (Fig. 1 SWA 7), so the water supply channels probably belong to the Tudor water gardens of



Fig. 3: The Drain (Foreground) with Blocking Brick Across its Line and Cut Through by the Privy Garden Boundary Wall (Photo Neil Pinchbeck)

Cecil. There are hints in a section of re-built wall (Fig. 1 SWA 1) that the standing west wall may have replaced one constructed by him a little further east.

If so the channels may well have taken flows from three separate springs to feed (?via a settling tank) a network of smaller distribution channels serving water garden features. One such channel crossed our Trench 2 west east and probably divided into an eastern and a northern arm. It was buried below a perhaps nineteenth century garden path and flanked by the possible remains of a brick surface, however, here tree growth meant that the area available for excavation was very small so conclusions must be tentative.

MARTIN DEARNE

PASTFINDERS NEWS

News of the Excavation and Fieldwork Group



It was with a great deal of consternation that I read about yet another threat to part of our heritage recently. Unfortunately the sites of historic battles are rarely scheduled since the location of many of them is based on tentative evidence or folklore. This is however not the case with a local battle fought on Easter Sunday 1471 between the nobility of the houses of York and Lancaster. Areas of the battlefield at Barnet are today covered by Old Fold Manor golf course, and to learn that a swathe of land where so much history was written in blood is to be used as a landfill site was abhorrent to say the least. I have informed the Barnet Battlefield Trust that the EAS will pledge our support to their campaign to stop this proposal.

On a lighter note the Pastfinders assisted with a geophysics survey in Cedars Park in November authorised by English Heritage. The aim of the survey was to locate the position of a three storey lodging tower situated at the end of the southern range. Recent research suggests that the demolished building was favoured by Elizabeth I during her frequent visits to Theobalds Palace in the late 16th century. If the results are conclusive it is hoped that limited excavation will reveal if the foundations of this structure survive beneath the lawn, pathway and flowerbeds in the park.

Members of the excavation team will also be assisting over the coming months with the archaeological excavation and investigation work planned within the grounds of Forty Hall for next year as part of the 'Parks for People' initiative.

I want to mention two anniversaries which fall in 2014. Firstly, the centenary of the outbreak of the Great War, which will be commemorated by the launch of an exhibition by the Enfield Museums Service at the Dugdale Centre in late March. Linked with this will be the publication (with financial support from the Museums Service) of a new, updated and greatly expanded edition of the EAS book about Enfield in the Great War. Our vice-chairman Ian Jones has added a wealth of new material to Geoffrey Gillam's 1980s original, and taken the opportunity of modern production techniques to add many more illustrations. More details in the next Bulletin.

Also, next year marks the 70th anniversary of an event which still resonates in the memories of local people in Enfield and Cheshunt. On August 12th 1944 an American Liberator Bomber crashed

and exploded with a full payload of bombs just north of the parish boundary killing all 10 of the aircrew. In memory of this tragic loss of life and the heroism of the airmen it is hoped to put together a small exhibition in conjunction with the friends of the Lowewood Museum. I was surprised to learn that the only artefact from the crash what survives is a charred map recovered from the wreckage. The debris field from the explosion covers a wide area to the east and west of the A10. The Pastfinders hope to co-ordinate a field walking and metal detecting survey to recover any artefacts from the plough soil which may still remain these will then form part of this exhibition. A memorial to the American airmen who died that day can be seen close to the entrance to St Mary's school just off Lieutenant Ellis Way, which was named after the pilot who steered the Liberator away from a populated area saving many lives. If any of our members have vivid recollections of this tragedy we would be interested to hear from you.

Small finds this year have been in short supply but noteworthy was the discovery of a corroded late 18th century cartwheel penny found in a drain by contractors working on the new cycle path close to Maidens Bridge and a small quantity of suspected Neolithic flint material such as cores and waste flakes from East Lodge Lane, Enfield.

With the discovery of the threshing barn within the Lime Tree Avenue I hope that we can renew our search for John Topias Tudor water mill near Maidens Bridge. The exact location of the mill is lost but tantalising clues still remain in the landscape which hopefully will lead us to rediscover the location of this water powered flour mill.

As well as our commitments within Enfield borough the Society have also been invited to assist with the interpretation of a Roman Site close to the line of Ermine Street to the north of Cheshunt. In the spring we hope that a geophysics survey of the area will reveal if any evidence of settlement survives, or roadside ditches, even perhaps a ritual enclosure. Natural springs in the vicinity may also suggest an early empire shrine to a water deity but I will put my over active imagination back in its box now for Christmas!

I would like to take this opportunity wish all our members a memorable and healthy Christmas as we look towards another year of unearthing more clues that help to retell the story of our past.

MIKE DEWBREY

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