



# Society News

The Bulletin of the Enfield Archaeological Society



The 2006 Archaeology Day dig at Forty Hall attracted all sorts of visitors, some better dressed than others (see report page 7)

Society News is published quarterly in March, June, September and December

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**MEETINGS** of the Enfield Archaeological Society 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



*If you would like to attend the EAS lectures, but find travelling difficult, please contact the Secretary, David Wills (Tel: 020 8364 5698) and we will do our best to put you in touch with another member who can give you a lift.*



## **Friday 20 April – Jubilee Hall**

### **EAS Excavations in Enfield 2006, preceded by AGM**

#### **Mike Dewbrey & Martin Dearne**

This is your opportunity to see and hear all about the excavations and fieldwork the Society carried out during 2006, with slides presented by our Chairman and Fieldwork Director. As you will know, 2006 was a very busy year for us, so we will be aiming to beat our record of wrapping up AGM business within 10 minutes in order to allow maximum time for the interesting stuff!

## **Friday 18 May – Jubilee Hall**

### **Time Team Special: The Shoreditch Project and the LAARC**

#### **Roy Stevenson, Museum of London/LAARC**

Roy Stevenson was director of the Shoreditch Park Community Archaeology Project, which was featured in a Time Team Special on TV last year, and was highly praised in the 2006 British Archaeological Awards. This collaboration between the Museum of London and the local community got over 3,000 people involved, and uncovered the remains of terraced houses destroyed during the Blitz. Roy will talk about the project, as well as other recent archaeological work he had been involved in across London.

## **Saturday 12 May**

### **Annual Coach Trip with the WEA: Battle Abbey & Batemans House**

The trip this year, arranged by the Workers' Educational Association, will be to Battle Abbey and Batemans House (home of Rudyard Kipling).

Prices will cover coach hire plus admittance, therefore will vary according to whether you have NT or EH memberships to get you discounted/free entry to the venues. For further details please phone 020 8360 4207.

## **Saturday 24 June**

### **Members event at Forty Hall: Dennis Hill Memorial Lecture: Elsyng Palace**

Our late chairman, Denis Hill, was instrumental in getting permission for the EAS to dig on the site of Elsyng Palace, an effort which has paid off handsomely. So what better way to remember him than a special event to guide members through the extensive discoveries we have made there in the last few years? The programme will include a talk by Dr Martin Dearne, a guided tour of the site, especially around the lime tree avenue, to explain exactly what we have found where, with refreshments and a closer look at the finds laid on in Forty Hall with the kind assistance of the Museum Service. More details, such as timings, will be provided at future lectures and in the June bulletin.

## **Sunday 15 July**

### **National Archaeology Day, 11.30am- 4pm Forty Hall**

#### **EAS & Enfield Museums Service**

Once again, the Society will be joining with the Museum Service to run a free event at Forty Hall as part of National Archaeology Week. There will be children's activities, a 'bring your finds' stall, and a 'guess the mystery object' competition. The event, on Sunday only, is planned to co-incide with a weekend dig by the Society in the grounds of the Hall. Further details in the June bulletin.

# Meetings of other Societies

## EDMONTON HUNDRED HISTORICAL SOCIETY

7.45 for 8pm, Jubilee Hall, Parsonage Lane, Enfield

**19 April**

Dramatic presentation on Florence Hardy (second wife of Thomas Hardy) – joint meeting with Enfield Preservation Society)

*Trinity Players*

**16 May**

The History of South Mimms Castle

*Brian Warren*

**27 June**

(7pm for 7.30, Bruce Castle, Tottenham)  
Joint Meeting with Friends of Bruce Castle

## HENDON & DISTRICT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

7.45 for 8.00pm Avenue House, 17 East End Road, Finchley

**10 April**

In the Footsteps of the Famous in High Barnet

*Paul Baker*

**8 May**

Trams of North West London

*David Berguer*

## HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION NORTH LONDON BRANCH

8pm, Jubilee Hall

**8 May**

The Marriage of Philip and Mary

*Alexander Samson*

## WALTHAM ABBEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

8pm, Victoria Hall, Greenyard, Waltham Abbey

**27 April**

AGM and President's Address (Tolpuddle Martyrs)

*Stan Newens*

**24 May**

Sutton Hoo

*Veronica Bennett*

## WEST ESSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

7.45pm 6<sup>th</sup> Form Unit, Woodford County High School, High Road, Woodford Green

**16 April**

Turners Hall Farm – Roman Rich Burials

*Simon West*

**14 May**

Rudge Lecture

*Philip Crummy – Colchester Archaeological Unit*

**11 June**

Petra – That Rose Red City

*Walter Loebel*

## LONDON & MIDDLESEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

6pm for 6.30, Learning Centre, Museum of London

**19 April**

The Old Welsh Bridge at Shrewsbury – A Newly Discovered Fortified Bridge

*Bruce Watson*

**17 May**

A History of the Worshipful Company of Apothecaries

*Dee Cook*

## EAS Fieldwork

The Society carries out a busy programme of excavation and other practical activities in the Borough.

Please see the *Pastfinders News* column for more details, and contact Mike Dewbrey on 01707 870888 (office number) if you are interested in taking part.



# SOCIETY MATTERS

## Member subscriptions – reminder

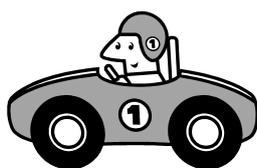
Please remember that membership subscriptions were due on 1 January, regardless of when you joined the society. (Except that subscriptions of new members who joined since 30 September 2006 remain valid until 31 December 2007.)

If you have not yet paid for 2007, please would you send payment to the secretary, David Wills, using the form which you should find enclosed with this bulletin.

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

## Drivers Wanted

As mentioned on page 2, we would like to try and help members who are otherwise unable to attend EAS lectures with transport. If you might be able to help by offering a local person a lift, please contact the secretary, David Wills (Tel: 020 8364 5698).



Orthodox (l) and Roman Catholic (r) Cathedrals,  
Vintu de Jos, Romania

# Meeting Reports

## Romania's Heritage: Medieval Towns & Castles of Transylvania and Painted Churches of Moldavia

15 December: Stephen Gilbert

Just ahead of Romania's accession to the EU at the new year, EAS member Stephen Gilbert gave us a timely tour of the relatively little known of some of its architectural delights.

Transylvania lies to the north west of the Carpathian Mountains and had a mixed population of Romanians, Hungarians and Germans. Previously part of the Kingdom of Hungary it came under Turkish rule from the 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> centuries. Conquered by Austria it did not become part of Romania until 1918.

The principal towns, including Brasov, Alba Iulia, and Sighisoara (birthplace of Vlad Dracul), were inhabited by Germans and Hungarians, whose Romanesque and Gothic catholic (and later protestant) churches can still be seen – the Lutheran church in Brasov boasting the largest organ in south east Europe. So too can their Renaissance and Baroque town halls and houses. Some towns retain their medieval fortifications and there are castles such as Bran and fortified churches serving originally German-speaking villages. The church of Bogdan Voda of 1718 is typical of the wooden churches of northern Transylvania.

Wallachia to the south and Moldavia to the north-east were ruled by native Romanian princes in the middle ages until overrun by the Turks. Autonomy was obtained with Russian help in 1859 and full independence in 1878, when a German prince became King Carol I.

The exterior of many of the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> century Romanian Orthodox monastic churches such as Veronet, Humor and Moldovita are still covered with fine frescoed wall paintings of saints and vivid representations of the Last Judgement.

Romania's capital, Bucharest, has a collection of over 300 vernacular buildings from various

regions of Romania which have been re-assembled in a huge open-air museum. It also has reminders of more recent times in the enormous palace built for Nicolae Ceausescu, the 'Palace of the People'. The second biggest building in the world after the Pentagon, many historic buildings were demolished to make way for its construction in the 1980s.

Stephen's talk clearly showed that those historic sites which survived Ceausescu have a unique character and charm – one hopes that this will survive as Romania's economy continues to grow in the enlarged EU.

## Pre-1914 Edmonton

19 January: **Graham Dalling**

In January we were delighted to welcome Enfield's Local History Officer, who demonstrated his encyclopaedic knowledge with a talk on the Edmonton his grandparents knew.

The population of Edmonton grew rapidly through the mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> century, the driving force being the new rail and tram lines. The railway came in 1840 with a station at Water Lane (Angel Road), with a branch to Enfield in 1849, but the direct Enfield – London line via Silver Street did not open until 1872. The tram service got steam power in 1892, and was electrified in the early 1900s, and replaced by a trolley bus in 1938.

The issue of cheap train fares for workmen was the cause of much social unrest. The tuppenny fare was enshrined in legislation when the line was built, with workmen's trains provided early in the mornings. However, demand was such that workers were often left behind by the last train – sometimes they forced their way on. At the turn of the century protests lead to a new ticketing system under which tickets had to be bought in advance. However the workmen found themselves locked out on the 1<sup>st</sup> day and forced their way in, leading to a pitched battle with police and 3 arrests. A 2000-strong protest meeting was broken up by police, and by the 3<sup>rd</sup> day the workers were reportedly pelting railway police with the contents of their lunchboxes. Eventually extra thrupenny trains were laid on between 6.30 and 7am. In 1920 there was a new intensive 10 minute service with extra trains in the rush hour every 2½ to 3 minutes.

The 1896 Ordnance Survey map shows no gap between Upper and Lower Edmonton (in contrast to the 1867 map), but Upper Edmonton was still not much developed. The Silver Steet area was relatively middle class, with the 1901 census

showing a notable proportion with West Country roots. The Bury Street area was mostly developed by this time, occupied largely by the 'respectable' working classes. By contrast, the other side of the Hertford Road was less reputable, and the police would only venture into St Mary's Road in pairs.

By 1914 Edmonton had grown dramatically. Streets in the Huxley Estate in the Silver Street area were named after villages around Crewkerne – the builder's home town. This period also saw the development of Cheddington Road, Grace Avenue, Victoria Road and along the Hertford Road – but the gap between Lower Edmonton and Ponders End remained until the 1930s.

School admission books shed some light on where the growing population came from. In 1907/8 the majority of the children came from Edmonton, Enfield, Tottenham and other east London boroughs, but also a fair number from metropolitan Essex and south London. The substantial drift into Edmonton from outside London from the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century seems to have largely finished by this stage.

Health records make fascinating reading. In 1900 Edmonton had the highest birth rate in Middlesex, at 34 per thousand – double the rate in outer London today, and a relatively young population. The mortality rate was high, with 187 in every thousand Edmontonites dying before their first birthday, compared with 145 in Enfield (the same as the Middlesex average), but inner London was even worse. The Medical Officer's report for 1907 lists the following causes of death (per thousand?): 57 heart attack, 53 pulmonary TB, 51 pneumonia, 47 cancer, 39 whooping cough, 34 premature birth, 33 bronchitis, 30 senile decay, 28 rheumatic fever, 21 measles.

Efforts to improve things included issuing free bottles of disinfectant (24,000 in 1902), seizing unfit food, and removing dead animals from watercourses (405 in 1902!). A guide to infant feeding in 1905 recommended avoiding beer, stout or spirits (for the child!), and putting off weaning until after the summer months to avoid diahorrea. In 1908 a raid on a 'baby farm' lead to the owner's arrest, but in another case the father of a child who died maintained that if his (epileptic) wife did not feed the child it was no concern of his – and got off!

In 1881 Enfield and Edmonton were separated, it being reported that "all important rate payers are in favour". Not surprisingly, Graham's excellent talk jogged lots of memories and prompted plenty of further discussion and questions.

*(See review of David Pam's new book about Edmonton on p 15 – Ed.)*

# Batavia's Graveyard: Maritime Archaeology in Western Australia

16 February: **Ian Jones**

From the early 17th century increasing numbers of merchant ships, mainly Dutch, sailed to the East to trade in spices and other luxuries. Because a ship's longitude could not be estimated accurately, the uncharted Australian coast became a hazard, as first demonstrated by the English ship Tryal in 1622.

The Batavia was built in Amsterdam in 1627-8 as the Dutch East India Company's new flagship, and sailed for the East on 28 October 1628 at the head of a fleet of 11 ships commanded by Francisco Pelsaert. Her captain was Ariaen Jacobsz. Also on board as senior trade representative was a protestant heretic and bankrupt apothecary Jeronimus Cornelisz, and 10 chests of silver bullion.



The reconstructed Batavia

In the early morning of 4 June 1629, by now separated from the fleet, Batavia ran aground on the Houtmann Abrolhos islands 40 miles off Western Australia. About 40 of the 341 on board were drowned, but the rest made it to Beacon Island.

Pelsaert took Jacobsz, whom he suspected of plotting mutiny, and 47 others to find water, and having failed set off to Batavia (Jakarta) to fetch help. He arrived after 33 days, whereupon he had the captain arrested, and returned to rescue the survivors, taking another 63 days.

Meanwhile Cornelisz led a bloody mutiny, murdering 125 people including several women and children. Before this he had somehow tricked the 40 soldiers present into moving to another island without their weapons. Here they unexpectedly found water, and beat off an attack by Cornelisz with their bare hands. Pelsaert returned just in time to prevent a second attack. The leading mutineers were hanged, much of the

bullion recovered, and the wreck fell into obscurity until rediscovered by a sport diver in 1963.

Excavation began in 1972 and was completed in 1976, most of the finds now being on display in the Shipwreck Galleries of the Western Australian Maritime Museum in Fremantle.

The huge range of finds recovered illustrated every aspect of life on board, and of the needs of colonialists. The everyday objects, such as coils of wire, are of particular interest, since unlike more decorative objects they tend not to have been preserved elsewhere. Large quantities of 'Bellarmine' stoneware jugs were carried, probably containing both wine and other liquids such as mercury. The extensive specialist report on this stoneware collection from the other side of the world has recently come in very handy to us nearer to home, when identifying similar finds at Elsyng Palace!



'Bellarmine' jugs from the Batavia. The report on this assemblage was useful in our digs at Elsyng Palace

Excavation of the ship itself showed its unique stern design departed from the shipwright's plans, but it was too late to incorporate this into the reconstruction, which was already being built in the Netherlands.

Other victims of Australia's west coast have added to the archaeological record. Notable among them is the James Matthews, lost in 1841 – a converted slaver which provided important evidence of this type of ship. The English-built iron steamer Xantho, lost in 1872, had just been re-engined to begin a new coastal service in Australia. Her new engine, originally built for the Royal Navy in the 1850s, was the first high pressure, high revolution, mass produced marine engine in the world.

Ian's lively story of a bizarre historical incident and the surprisingly relevant archaeological treasure trove it has given to the world was fascinating, and it is a pity more people could not brave a winter's evening to enjoy it.

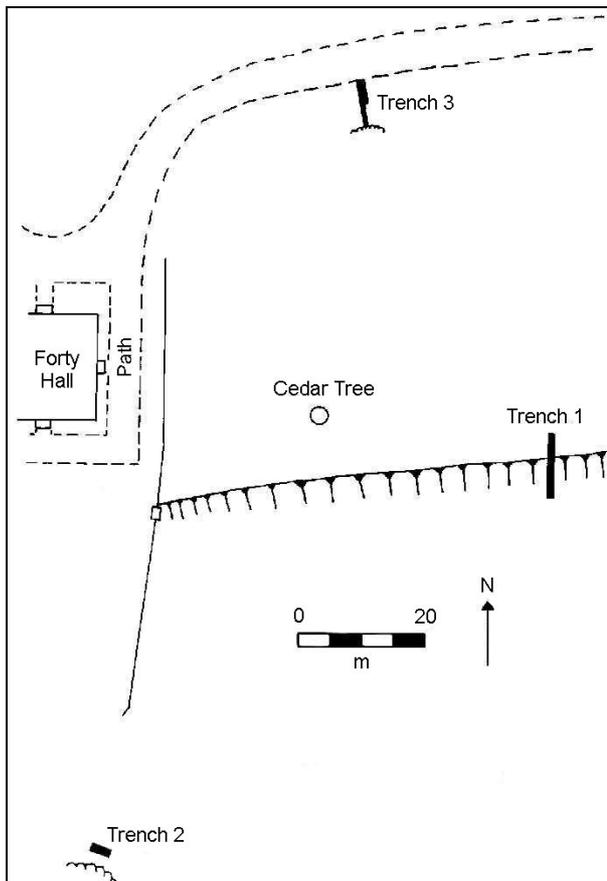
# Excavations South And East Of Forty Hall, July 2006

(Site Code FYE06)

By Martin J. Dearne

## Introduction

The excavation of three trenches within the currently grassed and tree-dotted gardens immediately south and east of Forty Hall was undertaken on 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> July 2006 by members of the EAS under the direction of the author. It was part of a wider programme of study of the development of the grounds of the Hall then being undertaken by the Paul Drury Partnership on behalf of the London Borough of Enfield. It also coincided with the Museums Services' events to mark National Archaeology Day. This account is based on the longer archive report now held in the archive at Forty Hall.



**Fig 1: Trench Locations**

The siting of the trenches was determined with the aims of establishing: i) whether the still prominent linear change in ground level east of the Hall represented an artificial landscaping and whether the lower area south of it was originally demarked by a wall (e.g. encircling a formal garden); ii) whether such a demarking wall had also run south from the south eastern corner of the Hall (its line perhaps preserved by a more modern Ha Ha wall at the eastern edge of the south lawn of the Hall); and iii) whether a road originally ran east west immediately in front of the Hall as documentary research had suggested. The trenches addressing these three research questions were, respectively, trench 1 (10.0 m by 1.0 m, cut at right angles to and across the change in ground level), trench 2 (4.0 m by 1.0 m, 21.0 m south of the end of and at right angles across the alignment of the Ha Ha); and trench 3 (4.0 m by 1.0 m, subsequently extended to the south by 3.5 m at a width of 0.5 m, running south from the southern edge of the modern access path running east from the Hall (see Fig. 1).

## Trench 1 (Fig. 2)

The earliest deposit encountered in trench 1 was <19>, a silty clay over 30 cm thick which may have been the natural. Above it was <12>, an 18 cm thick sub soil or buried cultivation soil probably forming the land surface before the dumping of <10>, which was an artificial dump of, essentially, redeposited (?partly reworked) brickearth, around 90 cm thick and was clearly what had created the marked change of ground level visible today. To the south <10> formed a fairly steep slope down to the north side of the foundations of a wall <11> which may have acted to a degree as a retainer for it but was probably too insubstantially built to have resisted much pressure. It survived only as footings (unless the whole wall was no more than a brick fascia to the bank), a maximum of 47 cm wide, which may only have been sufficient for dwarf wall construction given its build.

The wall was built in the bottom of a construction trench <18> and the footings had been constructed by facing roughly layered, randomly orientated, unmortared broken bricks and stone with a single skin of coursed brickwork on the south. The broken bricks and stone, of which two or three layers with part of a third or fourth survived, included unfrogged part bricks up to 16 cm long and at least some c.6 cm thick. The single skin of 23 X 10 X 6 cm bricks, preserved to three courses, was in an irregular but basically Flemish bond, with horizontal joints varying in size and no mortar visible at the face, though white mortar was visible in plan behind and on top of the

highest surviving course. Part bricks displaced (?during demolition) probably from the skin and backing rubble lay above the surviving structure and one was drip glazed. Their thicknesses varied from 5.5 to 7 cm, suggesting re-use of material of varying dates/origins and the thinnest retained white mortar suggesting that the rubble had been mortared at a higher level than the structure survived to.

The construction trench in which the wall was built was mainly filled by <16/17>, a clayey silt with much brick rubble, capped by <16>, a similar deposit but much more compacted and with in addition extremely frequent small stones and some fragments of burnt daub. These seemed to represent back filling with wall construction material/debris and capping with rammed gravel.

Above <16> another, looser, deposit, <14>, including more larger stones, may have represented reinforcement of the base of the wall at ground level, but could also have been deposited when the wall was demolished. Topsoil <1> overlay all these deposits and included <8>, a concentration of modern (probably mid twentieth century) rubbish.

### **Trench 2 (Fig. 3)**

The earliest deposits encountered in trench 2 were <13> and <15> which appeared to be interleaving brickearth and sandy gravel respectively. They may have been dumps to raise/flatten ground level but could alternatively have represented the natural drift geology here (more extensive excavation would be necessary to decide this). They were overlain by a rammed pebbled/cobbled surface <9>. It was clearly present, though not excavated, throughout the trench and consisted of rounded and some angular pebbles/cobbles and occasional brick and tile fragments. It was 4 to 9 cm thick with a west east slope at least partly reflecting that of the underlying surface of <13> but had an irregular top suggesting damage and it could originally have been thicker. It was overlain only by topsoil.

### **Trench 3 (Fig. 4)**

The earliest deposit encountered in trench 3, the nature and compaction of which prevented more than its selective excavation and precluded excavation below it, was <5>. It was a very compacted pebbled/cobbled surface, present throughout the trench and principally formed of rounded pebbles with occasional brick and tile fragments and a single larger drip glazed brick fragment. In most areas of the surviving surface pebbles of 1 to 3 cm predominated with larger

stones being rare but the latter became more frequent in the northernmost approximately 1.0 m of the trench. In the northern 4.0 m of the excavated area the surface, with a small north to south slope, appeared undamaged except for tree root disturbance but may have been evenly worn. In the southern 3.5 m by contrast the (?flatter but probably still south sloping) surface was also tree root disturbed but was otherwise heavily damaged, some damage possibly suggesting east west rut marks, exposing at one point a small concentration of brick fragments including an angularly lying part brick which must originally have been within the core of the surface.

Only the northernmost 1.66 m of the surface could be part sectioned. It was over 28 cm thick here and in section there were slight suggestions of brickearth like material forming possible horizons conceivably indicating resurfacings but these could not be confirmed. Pebble frequency generally remained constant but in the northern 1.0 m the frequency of larger stones decreased with depth only to increase again at the lowest point examined. Tile and brick fragments were not present here in the lower parts of the deposit. It is possible that the pebble/cobble size in the northern 1.0 m indicates that this part of the surface was slightly more substantial than the rest (?? suggesting an east west road line) but there was no formal demarcation of it and the entire surface was a contemporaneous construction. Clearly the surface was extensive, over 7.5 m north south at least, so that it is unlikely to have all comprised an east west road, but the wear to the southern parts suggests heavy (?vehicular) usage and one interpretation might see it as a road line flanked by a hard standing such as a coach turning area. However, no firm conclusions about its function are possible without more information on its extent.

It was overlain throughout the trench by <4>, a brickearth levelling layer and, allowing for some observed tree root damage, the intension had probably been to create a flat surface with a much slighter southerly slope than the pebbled/cobbled surface had. A shallow oval cut, <17>, had penetrated <4> and slightly disturbed the surface of <5> at one point and was filled with pebbles and gritty silt, <6>. It might have been a backfilled planting pit, a soak away or a minor post hole.

### **Discussion**

It is now clear that the raised (northern) area of the current lawn east of the Hall is of artificial construction at least in part, with the still prominent change of ground level running east

from the east side of the Hall marking the southern edge of the 90 cm thick artificial dump creating it. This dump was either retained or at least formally marked by a wall at its southern edge, though this wall may not have been that substantial. The date of these changes to the area east of the Hall is difficult to fix. Whilst the wall incorporated re-used bricks that might be as early as Tudor, the bricks used for the façade of the wall were comparable (though a little shorter and narrower) to those used in building the original bay windows of Forty Hall in the early 1630s. A little material from the bank <10> probably includes residual ?late Medieval pottery but also olive green wine bottle sherds (post c. 1640) while the wall's construction trench fills, as well again as ?late Medieval pottery, included a clay pipe stem and a probably seventeenth or eighteenth century sherd (with another from the same vessel in deposit <14> immediately above this). The slim evidence perhaps therefore favours the (?later) seventeenth or eighteenth century.

The wall (no evidence for the demolition date of which was recovered) implies a former differentiation of use between the southern and northern areas and, given the age of at least one tree (the large Cedar) in the northern part, it seems most likely that this area featured specimen trees while the southern, where a possible buried cultivation soil, <12>, was noted, could have represented a more formal garden.

It must also be likely that this artificial raising of the ground surface was contemporary with (and probably part of the same process as) the similar raising of ground level adjacent to the Hall, probably prior to c 1708 but most likely in the later seventeenth or early eighteenth century, known from other recent excavations.

However, no corresponding wall running south from the south east corner of the Hall and so possibly enclosing a second side of a formal garden was identified in line with the more recent Ha Ha at the eastern edge of the southern raised lawn. This does not preclude the existence of one even on this approximate line and it should be noted that surveying identified a change in orientation to the Ha Ha a short distance south of the south east corner of the Hall which, if projected, would place a continuation of its line just east of trench 2. However, it is the stretch of Ha Ha whose orientation trench 2 bisected that the earthwork representing the wall edged dump seen in trench 1 appears to adjoin.

The laying of a pebbled/cobbled surface in trench 2, though excavation has been too limited to sufficiently characterise it, might have implications such as for some formal access to the south of the Hall existing at some date. However, the only indication of date was a glazed post medieval oxidised earthenware rim sherd perhaps very broadly of the eighteenth century in the pebbled/cobbled surface.

Clearly from the results in trench 3 another, and more substantially constructed, large pebbled/cobbled surface also formerly existed north east of the Hall. As noted, it would be attractive to see it as in part the suspected roadway running east west in front of the north façade of the Hall, with an undifferentiated continuation to the south used e.g. as a coach turning space. Dating evidence for it was limited, and the possibility that it was resurfaced should be borne in mind, but it included chips of Delftware and olive green wine bottle sherds giving a terminus post quem of c. 1640 while the overlying brickearth sealing layer included a clay pipe stem fragment. However, again, further excavation is needed to confirm its extent and refine its dating. Whatever its function though, when it went out of use an attempt was made to flatten its southwards slope with a layer of brickearth and it is very tempting to equate this with the brickearth dump <10> much further south in trench 1 which also raised the surface of the land.

### **Acknowledgements**

The author and the EAS are grateful to the London Borough of Enfield and especially Mr. G. Williams for commissioning the work and facilitating its progress; and to Paul Drury and Peter Jackson (LBE Parks Department) for useful discussions before the excavation. Jan Metcalfe and Val Munday of the LBE Museums Service also gave valuable practical assistance before and during the excavation.

The author is grateful to all the members of the EAS who constituted the excavation team, especially Mike Dewbrey (site supervisor and visitor liaison officer), Roger Dormer (site supervisor), Peter Spindley and Jeremy Grove (site surveyors), and Neil and John Pinchbeck (assistant site recorders).

*Copies of the full archive report are available from the Society at cost price.*

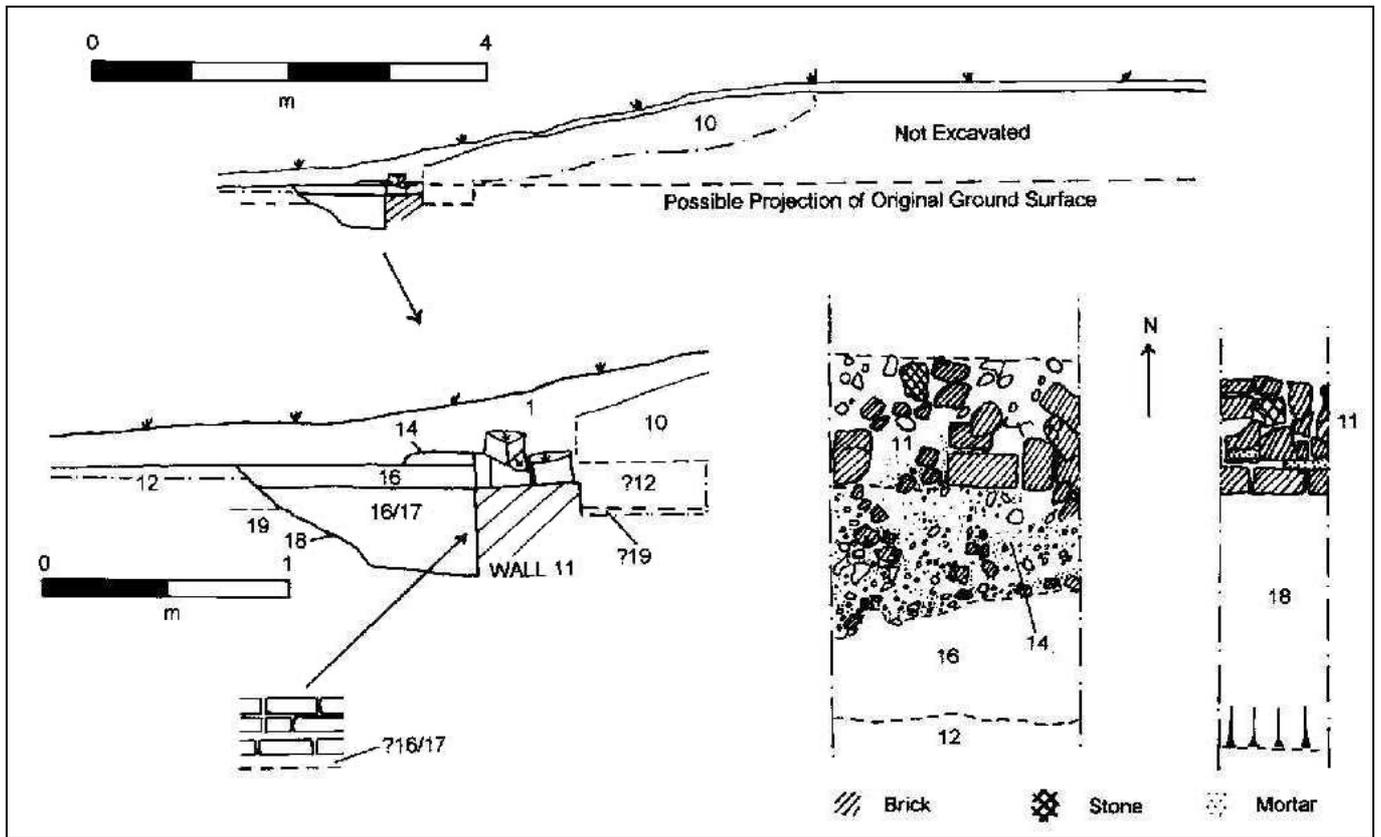


Fig 2: Trench 1

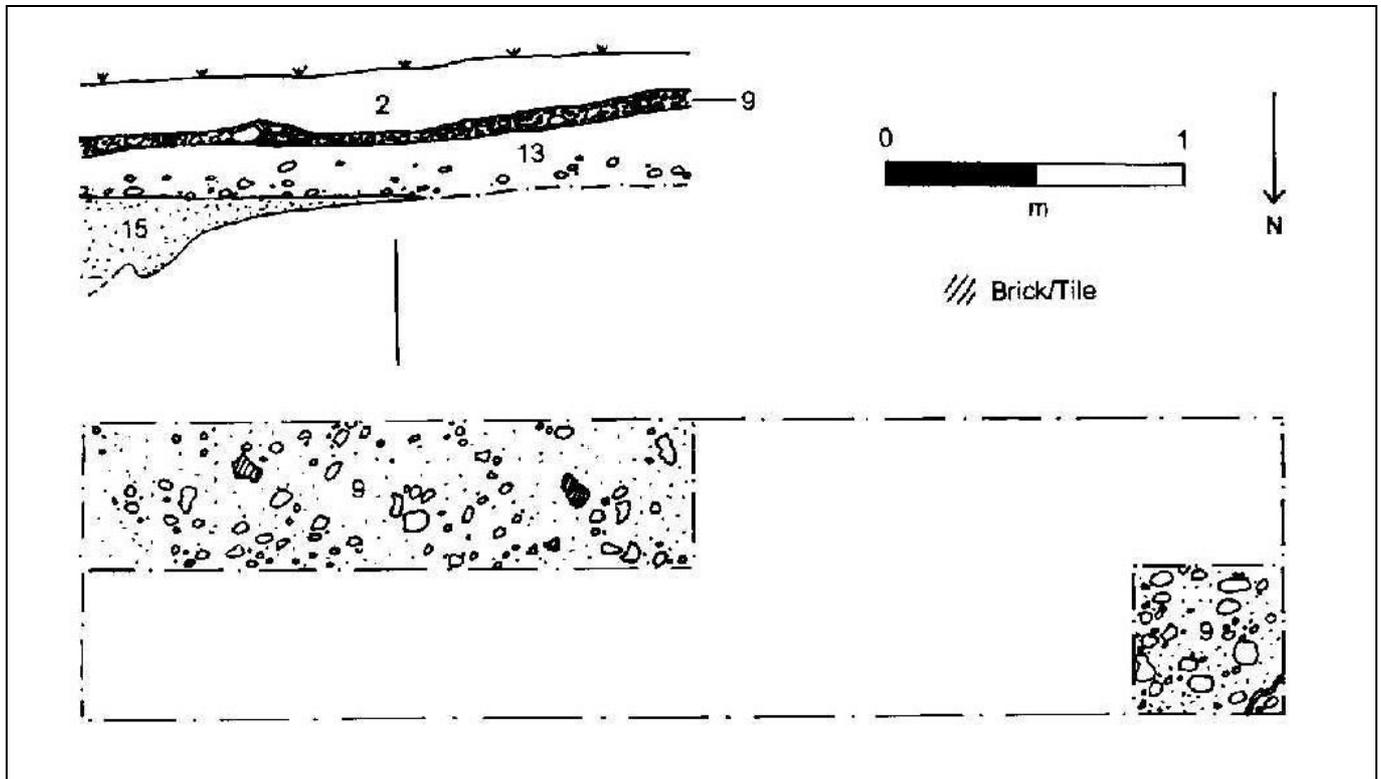
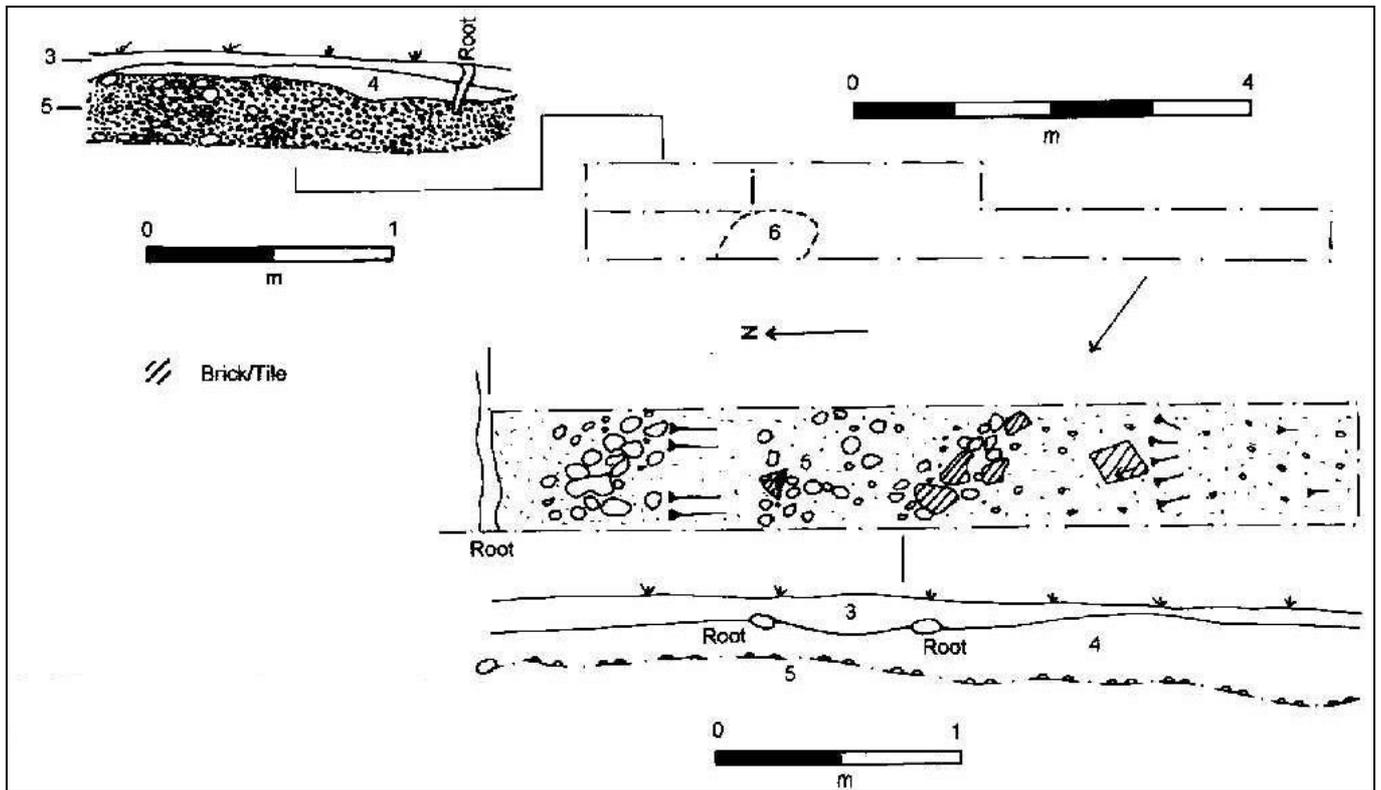


Fig 3: Trench 2



**Fig 4: Trench 3**



Top Left: Trench 3  
 Below Right: EAS  
 Stall  
 Rest: Trench 1



# Enfield Archaeological Society

## ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2006

The Executive Committee of the Enfield Archaeological Society has pleasure in presenting its 51st Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2006.

### 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOCIETY

2006 was the 50th anniversary of the Society it having been formed in 1955. With this fact in mind, one of our Vice-Presidents and longest serving members, Geoffrey Gillam, gave an entertaining talk on "Enfield Archaeological Society: The First Fifty Years" at the beginning of the year in January. 50 years of the Society's activities and personnel were recounted with slides and a hint of nostalgia.

### NEW CHAIRMAN

During 2005 our Chairman of eight years, Dennis Hill, sadly passed away. After Ian Jones our Vice-Chairman had kindly taken over Dennis's duties in the interim, 2006's Annual General Meeting saw Mike Dewbrey elected as the new Chairman of the EAS. He has carried on the hard work and high standards set by Dennis and Ian and we are very grateful to him.

### MEMBERSHIP

The changes in membership that have occurred during the year are shown in the following table:

	Adults	Juniors	Total
Membership at 31.12.05	184	7	191
Joined during the year	10	2	12
Resignations & removals	33	1	34
Membership at 31.12.06	161	8	169

### LECTURES

Another fine programme of lectures was given in 2006 and the EAS is grateful to all the speakers and especially to those of its members who gave talks themselves. The topics were: 50 Years of the EAS, The Archaeology of South East Turkey, Radio Valves and Enfield, Reports of EAS Excavations & Fieldwork, Enfield Palace Exchange, Roman Southwark, King Arthur, The

IKEA Site in Edmonton, Medieval Towns & Castles of Transylvania and Painted Churches of Moldavia.

The Society is grateful to our Honorary Meetings Secretary, Tim Harper, who sought out new speakers, arranged the lecture programme, served refreshments and looked after Jubilee Hall. Tim has set up a fascinating programme of speakers for 2007.

Thanks should also be given to Caroline McKenna for meeting and greeting visitors to our talks and for running the sales and information table and Roger Eddington for helping with the transport and operation of the projector and screen. We are also grateful to all our members who have supported us throughout the year and who continue to make the EAS an active and valuable addition to the local community.

### VISITS

The proposed coach trip to the multi-period site of Flag Fen in June was unfortunately cancelled due to a lack of numbers and it is uncertain whether the Society will organise any further independent trips. The joint outing with the WEA, to Lullingstone Roman Villa and Knole House, was however a success.

On a more positive note, Mike Dewbrey our Chairman led a well attended and informative guided walk around the remains of Theobalds Palace (once owned by James I) within the grounds of Cedars Park, after a request from Broxbourne Council Parks Department.

### PUBLICITY

The local press continues to take an active interest in our activities, and we are grateful for their support. Meetings are publicised by notices on library notice boards and at Forty Hall: we are grateful to Enfield Libraries and Forty Hall Museum for this service. At present we lack a Publicity Officer, whose main task is to send details of forthcoming lectures and subsequent meeting reports to the local papers. If any member would like to help in this way, the Committee would be grateful.

We continue to exchange newsletters, bulletins and programme cards with neighbouring societies. Other society's newsletters are available for inspection on the Sales and Information table at lecture meetings.

The Society maintains a website, [www.enfarchsoc.org](http://www.enfarchsoc.org), so that online users can be kept up-to-date with the lecture programme, National Archaeology Day events, excavations and past Society News editions.

The publicity surrounding the Society's work and especially the archaeology week dig at Elsyng Palace was very successful and greatly assisted again by Suzanne Linsey of the borough's publicity department, who we continue to work closely with.

We again joined the borough Museums Service on a stand at the Enfield show, where our display attracted considerable interest.

Special thanks are due to Jan Metcalfe and Val Munday of the Enfield Museum Service for their help in organising National Archaeology Day held at Forty Hall in July. The event always generates good publicity for the Society.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Society News, the quarterly news bulletin produced by the EAS for its membership is a very well produced and printed publication that contains notices of forthcoming events, our programme of lectures, illustrated articles on matters of archaeological interest in the area and reports on the fieldwork that the Society has been increasingly taking on. The EAS is particularly grateful to Jeremy Grove the Honorary Editor for his high editorial standards and Ernest Jones for his quality graphic design; and also to Martin Dearne and Mike Dewbrey for their regular contribution to archaeological reports and articles.

Sales of the Society's last publication, "Forty Hall: 1629 - 1997" by Geoffrey Gillam continue and a notable number were sold at the National Archaeological Day event in July 2006.

Dr Martin Dearne has had a productive year writing a number of limited circulation archive reports on sites examined in 2006; reports have been written on sites in: Lincoln Road, Forty Hall (Bay Window dig and National Archaeology Day dig), Elsyng Palace (tree pits), Bush Hill Park and 106 Leighton Road.

## **AFFILIATIONS**

We are affiliated to the Council for British Archaeology and the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society.

## **EXCAVATIONS, FIELDWORK & RESEARCH and LIBRARY, ARCHIVES & COLLECTIONS**

2006 was probably the busiest ever year for society excavations. We took a second look at the bay window foundations at Forty Hall, completing the picture we had built up in 2005 and adding to the detail on the construction and demolition history of the feature as well as subsequent dumping in the area. National Archaeology Day saw three more trenches opened further from the Hall which traced the evolution of the raised area of the grounds on which the large Cedar tree now stands. One examined a dwarf wall that once retained/faced this major ground raising dump; another identified a cobbled surface at the 'back' of the hall; and a third located another such surface (possibly a roadway with coach turning area) running towards the modern entrance. The surfaces raise questions about the development of the grounds of the hall that we can hopefully return to at a future date.

At the Iron Age hillfort on Bush Hill Park Golf Course, last the subject of EAS work way back in the 50s, we re-excavated a pipe trench that had been put across the scheduled ancient monument without consent. Any rampart had long gone but we saw the break of slope which it would once have reinforced, and the large ditch of the defences. We sampled its most modern fills, belonging to the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and traced the development of Victorian garden and drainage features.

Moving on to the Roman period, a watching brief in Wellington Road where burials are known did not yield anything, but excavation at Leighton Rd. within the Roman settlement, and within feet of the votive beaker deposit and complex of ditches seen in 2005, did. The two excavations together allowed us to establish the developmental history of a gap through a long suspected boundary ditch parallel with Ermine Street; the beaker deposit now appears to have underlain a cobbled foundation for something like a monument beside this gap.

However, the major work of the year has been at Elsyng Tudor Palace where we re-excavated 15 tree planting pits which had been cut without scheduled ancient monument consent, and then cut 18 more test pits to check the archaeological implications of more proposed tree planting. Though tree root damage was in some instances

considerable, the work further traced the pebbled paths lain after the demolition of the palace, established how known geophysical anomalies south of the palace were caused by a fan of demolition material, while others north of it reflected deep dumps of demolition material that changed the topography of the site. Many demolition dumps within the outer courtyard of the palace itself were sampled. Pits also provided several exposures of brickearth and pebbled surfaces in and beyond the outer courtyard of the palace and recorded some dumps forming them that may have been connected to ground make up during construction of the Tudor or the preceding late fifteenth century courtier's palace. Residual pottery and fourteenth century glazed tiles represented earlier activity from the eleventh century onwards.

A stretch of in situ Tudor wall was encountered; three phases of ?flooring and a ?partition wall foundation within the gatehouse; and a brick floor probably within a three-roomed structure (?tower) on the north side of the outer courtyard. Two pits encountered significant 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> century midden/rubbish deposits producing important faunal assemblages studied by Neil Pinchbeck and some pits included filled palace demolition and earlier construction cuts. Finds were extensive and included a jetton, moulded terracotta/brick, Venetian vessel glass, painted window glass, glazed tiles, partly reconstructable vessels, a bone comb etc. One of the results of post excavation work has been the creation of a pottery fabric reference collection for the site. Another has been the establishing of a partial developmental sequence for the outer court (based on types of mortar found which can be compared to those seen in the 60s when mortars of both 15<sup>th</sup> century and Tudor features were exposed). This seems to indicate that many of the structures forming it (including the drain and overlying range excavated in 2005) in fact belong to Lovell's palace (late 15<sup>th</sup> century), but were retained, renovated/added to and 'joined up' by Henry VIII to create the outer (service) courtyard next to the probably entirely new 'Eaves' court with its royal apartments.

Further work at Elsyng and the Bush Hill Park Roman settlement is already in the planning stage, including a major excavation for National Archaeology Day.

The Society is particularly indebted to our Director of Research & Excavations, Dr Martin Dearne, for his hard work in maintaining the Society's archaeological archives, promptly writing up its

archaeological reports, and directing its excavation and fieldwork to a professional standard. Special thanks are also due to Mike Dewbrey for organising the Pastfinders team and to all the diggers for undertaking fieldwork in all weather conditions.

Any members wishing to take part in fieldwork or other activities should telephone Mike Dewbrey on 01707 870888 (daytime).

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Financial Report will be made available at the Annual General Meeting.

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The posts of Honorary Social Secretary and Publicity Officer remain vacant. The committee has discussed the need for such posts and is minded to co-opt or propose for election any members wishing to volunteer for such positions.

Any member willing to stand for these posts are asked to contact David Wills 0208 3645698 or 07966 203233 (mobile), or email david\_wills1972@hotmail.com). Nominations are required at least 7 days before the AGM.

### **The Executive Committee will stand for re-election:**

President:	Harvey Sheldon BSc FSA FRSA
Vice Presidents:	Dr Iliad Anthony Ivy Drayton Geoffrey Gillam
Chairman:	Mike Dewbrey
Vice Chairman:	Ian Jones
Hon. Treasurer:	Geoffrey Lamport
Hon. Secretary:	David Wills
Hon. Meetings Secretary:	Tim Harper
Hon. Membership Secretary:	David Wills
Hon. Social Secretary	Vacant (see above)
Hon. Editor:	Jeremy Grove
Auditor:	To Be Confirmed
Director of Research & Excavations:	Dr Martin Dearne
Committee:	Roger Eddington Caroline McKenna Les Whitmore

# Enfield Archaeological Society

FOUNDED 1955

Affiliated to the Council for British Archaeology  
and the London & Middlesex Archaeological  
Society

President: Harvey Sheldon B.Sc. F.S.A.  
F.R.S.A.

## NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

that the 51st Annual General Meeting of the  
Society will be held at Jubilee Hall, 2 Parsonage  
Lane, Enfield at 8.00 pm on Friday 20th April 2007

## AGENDA

- 1) Minutes of the 50th Annual General Meeting
- 2) Report of the Executive Committee (herewith)
- 3) Financial Statement. (This will be available at the meeting)
- 4) Election of Honorary Officers and Committee Members. The Executive Committee will stand for re-election. Nominations for the vacant position of Hon. Social Secretary should be sent to the Secretary a minimum of seven days before the Annual General meeting.
- 5) Any Other Business  
Items for discussion must be advised to the Hon. Secretary not less than seven days before the date of the Annual General Meeting
- 6) Reports of Fieldwork, Research and other Activities carried out during 2006.

David Wills, Hon. Secretary  
43 Millers Green Close  
Enfield Middlesex EN2 7BD  
Home: 020 8364 5698  
Mobile: 07966 203 233  
Email: david\_wills1972@hotmail.com

## EDMONTON ANCIENT VILLAGE TO WORKING CLASS SUBURB

David Pam, F. R. HIST. SOC.

This interesting little book coincides with David's long overdue appointment as a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society; a fitting reward for the decades he spent and still spends researching the history of the Edmonton Hundred and presenting it to the public. Although he claims it is not a history of Edmonton Parish, it nonetheless presents the main trends in its development especially over the last 200 years when the suburb as we know it evolved.

His sympathy for the poorer inhabitants shines through, especially when dealing with the workhouses. The children at Millfield only had one pair of socks each which had to be washed each night for use the following morning and probably made little use of the single bath once described as, "half full of urine and excrement."

It is the many and unexpected details which make this such an enjoyable read. We have John Adams, later schoolmaster at Latymer, being arrested by the Inquisition in Brazil and the burglars who broke into the outbuildings at Pymmes and first helped themselves liberally to the cream. We meet the Grammar School boys who wore square caps, Mick the barber doing shaves in his front room, the "clumsy, clanking engine" which drew the first train through Edmonton from Enfield in 1849, and the pregnant Marjorie Dunton pardoned on the intercession of Queen Phillipa in 1367.

For those unfamiliar with the history of the area this is a delightful introduction to a part of the Borough that often fails to receive the attention it deserves.

*Copies of this and other EHHS publications can be obtained from the Society care of 18 Huxley Place, Palmers Green, N13 5SU.  
Price £4.50. 40pp.*

IAN K. JONES

# PASTFINDERS NEWS

News of the Excavation and Fieldwork Group



Winter Solstice has come and gone for another year and we already have some interesting projects ahead of us in 2007. I know that many of our diggers like my self are suffering from withdrawal symptoms, eager as always to lay out the first trench of the year and experience some real hands on archaeology.

Work on the first series of tree pits at Elsyng Palace is now completed and the excavation report prepared for the archive is quite a substantial tome. Working like Trojans, the excavation team managed to complete the last of the evaluation pits in early December just before the wet weather set in, revealing yet another well preserved Tudor brick floor surface only a few centimetres below the top soil. If the meadow here had been deep ploughed in antiquity it is unlikely that the floor would have survived in such remarkable condition today.

Some of the tree pits at the northern end of the lime avenue produced substantial amounts of butchered bone, suggesting a kitchen midden. The diversity of species so far identified would suggest that the Royal palate was well catered for! Sumptuous banquets of goose, chicken, coney, venison, pork, beef and mutton were on the menu together with platters of oyster, whelks and other shellfish. It is worth remembering that although oysters are quite a delicacy today, in Tudor times it was the lower classes that relied on them as part of their staple diet. Interestingly analysis of the bone from the kitchens reveals evidence of gnawing from dogs or foxes, cut and sawn bone and even splintered bone deliberately broken to extract the marrow.

A much clearer understanding of the underlying stratigraphy within the area has resulted from the tree pit evaluation work, but many questions still remain unanswered. We are seeking permission from English Heritage for further work in this area as part of our National Archaeology Week project for this year.

Work on the conservation of the Roman decorated colour coated indented beaker which was recovered during a rescue excavation in Bush Hill Park last year is now complete. Thanks to donations from the E.A.S., the Enfield Preservation Society and the Enfield Museums

Service. It is hoped that this exemplary vessel will one day take pride of place as a leading exhibit at Forty Hall Museum or in the new museum in Enfield Town Library.

Another project that the Past Finders are currently researching is the crash site of a V1 Doodlebug flying bomb west of the Ridgeway in Enfield. According to A.R.P. warden records the flying bomb came down at 4.20 am on the 16th of June 1944 causing structural damage to farm buildings close by. A metal detector scan of the field in this vicinity has revealed that the area is littered with fused cordite and fragments of zinc and aluminium. The discovery of a German silver deutschmark piece dated 1934 in the same field may be an unrelated coincidence but I believe that German prisoners of war were working the land in the area from the Trent Park camp close by. I recall recovering a corroded 'pig-stick' type bayonet from beneath an oak tree in Trent Park many years ago.

Some fragments from the site are among the latest set of local finds on display in the mini museum within the Ferney Hill farm tea rooms. Our thanks go to the Enfield Museum Service once again this year for the loan of their display case which attracts a lot of interest from the public, promoting the work of the Society throughout the year.

If you have made yourself a new year resolution to do a lot more digging with us during 2007 do make sure you are on the list of active diggers to be contacted once an excavation is scheduled. (Telephone 01707 87088 office hours 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday) If you have any recording or surveying experience your talents will not be wasted I can assure you!

*MIKE DEWBREY*



The figure on the front cover this month is a Roman bronze figurine found many years ago outside the Bush Hill Park settlement.

The figurine itself is lost, so the photo is all we have to go on.

It has been provisionally identified by Dr. Martin Henig of the Institute of Archaeology, Oxford as being of the god Bacchus.

