

Southgate District Civic Trust

Newsletter
No. 220
April 2012



www.southgatedistrictcivictrust.co.uk

Chairman: Graham Beech
83 Seafield Road,
New Southgate, N11 1AR
Tel: 020 8245 6998

Secretary: Jane Maggs
108 Chelmsford Road,
Southgate, N14 4JL
Tel: 020 8882 4253

Treasurer: Alastair Palmar
5 Tintern Gardens,
Southgate, N14 6AS
Tel: 020 8882 9387

Social Sec: Janet Lane
12 Norman Way,
Southgate N14 6NA
Tel: 020 8886 3303

**ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING**
Saturday 12th May 2012
at 2.30 pm
Walker Lower Hall,
Christ Church Parish Centre,
7 The Green, Southgate, N14

Please come and tell the committee what you think. The nomination form for the new committee is on **page 11**.

THE TRUST'S 50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Saturday 12th May 2012

Following the AGM, from approx. 4pm to 7pm, there will be a celebration of the Trust's 50 years in Southgate and surrounding districts.

Please stay and join us for a buffet tea, hear about some of our work, and successes and failures!
(See **page 2** for more details)

**HISTORY GROUP
MEETING**
Wednesday 2nd May 2012
at 7.30pm, Friends Meeting House,
Church Hill, N21
**"Miss Cresswell's Winchmore
Hill" by Stuart Delvin**
ALL MEMBERS WELCOME

EXTRA OPEN MEETING
Saturday 30th June 2012
at 2.30pm, Walker Lower Hall, N14
"Key Aspects of the Localism Bill"
by David Burrowes MP

This bill will start to come into force this month, so our MP has agreed to come and explain it to us, which contains important changes affecting community and the Trust.
See **page 4** for more details).

ALL WELCOME

NOTE! Annual Subscriptions are now due — see page 11 for renewal form.

Dates for your diary:

Mon. 7th May	May Day Fair on Southgate Green (see page 2 for details)
Sat. 12th May	Annual General Meeting and 50th Anniversary, (see above).
Sat. 30th June	Extra Open Meeting, (see above).
Wed. 4th July	History Group Meeting, Friends Meeting House "London's Transport". (See page 10)

Contributions to the July newsletter should be sent by Friday 8th June 2012

to the Editors: Mary and Colin Barratt, 13 Beardow Grove, Avenue Road, Southgate, N14 4DG
Tel: 020 8882 2246 e-mail: colin_barratt@yahoo.co.uk

Notice to Newsletter Distributors:- We hope to deliver the next newsletter to distributors during week commencing **9th July 2012**. Emailed copies should be available for members w/c **2nd July**.

Southgate District Civic Trust ~ Established to conserve and enhance the environment in Southgate, New Southgate, Cockfosters, Palmers Green, Winchmore Hill and Hadley Wood.
(Registered as an amenity society with **Civic Voice**).

ELECTIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2012/2013

The following members are willing to stand again:

President	Audrey Kirby
Vice-Presidents	Chris Howell
Chair	Graham Beech
Secretary	Jane Maggs
Treasurer	Alastair Palmar
Social Secretary	Janet Lane
Newsletter Editors	Mary and Colin Barratt
Committee Members	Irene Stone

We have not yet received nominations for the posts of:

Vice president

Or for new members of the committee. (See nomination form on page 11).

Please consider if you can help by sparing a few hours, to fill these posts.

If you would like more information, please contact one of the committee.

AGM & 50th ANNIVERSARY PARTY

SATURDAY 12th MAY 2012

This month, April 2012, marks the 50th Anniversary of the Trust. It was originally formed in 1962 as the Southgate Civic Society. Southgate was still a borough, and its council was under increasing pressure from developers, who threatened cherished features of the neighbourhood.

We became Southgate Civic Trust, and then later Southgate District Civic Trust, to recognise its wider coverage of the surrounding areas.

We will be celebrating our Golden Anniversary immediately after the AGM on 12th May, with a buffet tea, an exhibition of extracts from our newsletters over the 50 years, showing the various campaigns fought by the Trust, historical local photos, and the opportunity to hear from some long time members of their memories of the Trust's activities and achievements.

Please join us for both the AGM and the party afterwards. A donation towards the cost of the tea would be appreciated.

MAY DAY ON THE GREEN

The **Christ Church May Fair** will once again be held on Southgate Green,
On Bank Holiday Monday, 7th May
From 11am to 4pm.

As usual, the Trust will have a display and sales table, with our publications available. We hope this will attract a good deal of interest. Please come along to support us. Proceeds from the fair will go to Christ Church and another charity, yet to be decided.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Please note that annual subscriptions became due on 1st April. The membership renewal form can be found on page 11, or you can download one from our website.

Don't forget, your membership will lapse if we don't receive the subscription!

PLANNING GROUP REPORT

There were some 16 new applications that the group had to discuss since the last newsletter. As usual we had several other matters going on around us that we are involved in on behalf of the Trust .

Woodcroft Wildspace, N21 - they are keeping us informed on their progress. Residents in Woodcroft contacted me because they are concerned about the trees on the area designated for housing development, and would like them to have preservation orders on them.

Southgate College, N14 - had proposed removing the railings and gate from its present position back to where they have security at present and making the frontage available to the public as well as the college. The owner of the listed cottage next to the college has been shown new drawings that are being submitted to the council that will hopefully alleviate the security problems that this would create for the cottage.

Olympic Signage in Southgate Circus Conservation Area, including adjacent roads – there is a choice from banners, bunting, flags and a floor graphic/pictogram. We accepted lamppost banners (preferably on alternate posts) and a fence scrim to the roundabout outside Southgate station. We did not like the idea of bunting hanging between the buildings, however it is likely that there will be more signage around than we would like to see.

Pinkham Way, Barnet – This has been in support of Southgate Green and the concern of the area with regard to the North London Waste Plan. This would be a waste processing plant in Barnet for a 300,000 tonne waste facility and refuse vehicle depot for Barnet. A public hearing has taken place, and we wait for the Inspector's report.

Graham Beech responded to the consultation of the North London Area Action Plan document. He has been attending any meetings on this subject.

King Easton Site, Station Road, N21. This site is being closely monitored by the Conservation Planning Officer and the Environmental Unit, and also obviously by the residents. At this moment the front and rear sections of the development are not going ahead until new drawings are approved, but the central area has progressed, under scrutiny that the drawings that received approval are adhered to.

We dealt with the Conservation Area Management Proposals as it affected our Conservation Areas. This was required for the next 5 years and will provide a proactive management and enhancement of our areas, as it did for the previous 5 years that is now completed. However we were reminded that there are obviously severe funding restrictions.

We still meet monthly at 6, Eversley Mount, N21, at 8.00pm, and would welcome any member that would like to come along and join us. Tel: 0208 364 3500.

Irene Stone, Group Chairman

NORTH CIRCULAR ROAD REGENERATION

The upgrade of the North Circular Road has now been completed between the Bounds Green Road and Green Lanes junctions, (Telford Road and Bowes Road). The other part of this scheme is the regeneration of the areas alongside the road. An exhibition and public consultation was held at Trinity at Bowes Methodist Church on 16th and 17th March, which showed the plans for regenerating the areas between the Wilmer Way and Green Lanes junctions.

The exhibition consisted of large maps of the sites, drawings of 3D views of possible building layouts, a computer generated “fly through” along the areas, and photos and drawings of other building projects by these architects.

The proposals are still at an early stage, and the details have yet to be finalised, especially at the main junctions, but the architects have prepared detailed housing layouts for those sites where new residential properties are planned. The Notting Hill Housing Trust appear to have bought much of the land along the routes, and are already renovating existing houses, which had remained derelict or plagued by squatters for many years. There is still uncertainty about some sites, such as the “Ritz Parade”, where the Jehovah's Witnesses hall has a long lease, and there will be pressure to preserve many of the mature trees.

Further consultations and workshops have been planned, and we would be interested to hear comments on the scheme from our members.

(See also the report of the Open Meeting on page 7)



N21 FESTIVAL 16-23 June

As well as being one of the sponsors of the Festival, the Trust is taking part in various events during the week:

Sat. 16 th June	Our President, Audrey Kirby, will be running a drawing workshop. *
Sun. 17 th June	Film Festival (2pm)
Mon. 18 th June	Peter Hodge will be giving a talk on the Cresswells (see below).
Fri. 22 nd June	Audrey Kirby will be giving a talk on Grovelands. *
Sat. 23 rd June	Fancy Fair.

* Further details available at the AGM.

Note-The History Group Meeting on 2nd May also links to the Festival. (See front page).

Discovering the Cresswells of Winchmore Hill

An illustrated talk by Peter Hodge

Monday 18th June 2012. 7.30pm for 8pm, at the Friends Meeting House (large meeting hall), Church Hill, N21.

As a contribution to the week-long festivities in June to celebrate the centenary of Henrietta Cresswell's book "Winchmore Hill: Memories of a Lost Village", Trust member Peter Hodge will speak about his discovery of the talented family to which Henrietta belonged. The outcome of his research was his book "The Cresswells of Winchmore Hill: A Gifted Victorian Family", published by the Trust. In it he traces five generations of the Cresswells, from their ancestral home in Northumberland, through their period of residence in Winchmore Hill, to their demise in the mid 20th century. The book is still available, and will be on sale after the talk.

There will be an admission charge of £2, which will be donated to charity. Light refreshments will be available after the talk.

New date for the diary— 30th June Open Meeting

David Burrowes MP - Key Aspects of the Localism Bill

When: 30th June 2012 at 2.30pm

Venue: Walker Lower Hall, Christ Church Parish Centre, 7 The Green, Southgate N14

This is an extra Open Meeting, arranged to allow David Burrowes to explain the key aspects of the Localism Bill, parts of which come into force this month.

The Localism Bill, according to the plain English guide available from the Department for Communities and Local Government, has the potential to impact local communities and the role of civic societies like the SDCT. It is intended to decentralise and devolve power from government directly to individuals and local communities, giving people control of decision making and encouraging them to take greater responsibility for their area.

The main measures of the Localism Bill are:

- new freedoms and flexibilities for local government
- new rights and powers for communities and individuals
- reform to make the planning system more democratic and more effective
- reform to ensure that decisions about housing are taken locally

However, not everyone shares this view, and articles on the Civic Voice website highlight some of the dangers to local communities with a loss of accountability and democracy.

The plain English guide to the Localism Bill is available at:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/localismplainenglishguide>

Or from the Department for Communities and Local Government (030 3444 0000)

News articles from Civic Voice can be found at:

<http://www.civicvoice.org.uk/campaigns/civic-societies-and-localism-report/>

and <http://www.civicvoice.org.uk/news/does-the-planning-system-need-a-tea-party//>

STAN RONDEAU ON RADIO 2

***Great British Faith* - 5th April at 10pm**

London is one of the three cities featured in this second series of *Great British Faith* and included an item on the history of the Huguenot community in the East End of London. The programme was presented by TV presenter and comedian Hardeep Singh Kohli, who interviewed Stan Rondeau, one of our members.

Stan can also be found in a new book – *Spitalfields Life* by The Gentle Author, published by Saltyard Books.

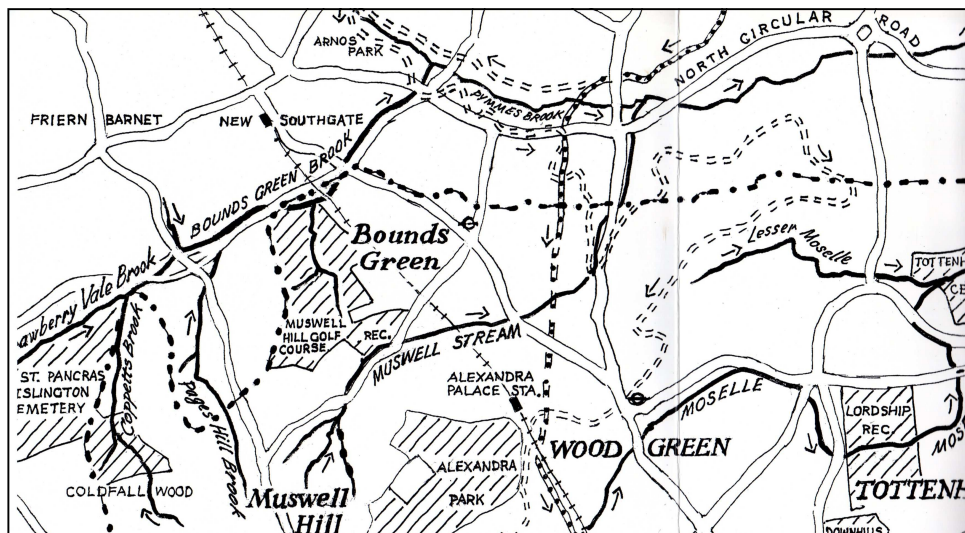
LOCAL HISTORY GROUP MEETING – 7th MARCH 2012

“Hidden Streams of Haringey” by David Dell

This talk was based on the book “Haringey’s Hidden Streams Revealed”, by Albert Pinching and David Dell, of the Hornsey Historical Society (HHS), using research data by the late David Harrison. It was produced in 2005 as a tribute to him.

David Harrison had earlier researched the New River, then he arranged walks for the HHS from 1994. He researched the streams of Haringey, and conducted walks along their routes, but died before writing a book about them. The project started at Bruce Castle Museum, where he created a skeleton map of the streams. He also used records in the British Library, Guildhall and the London Metropolitan Archives. The best maps for this purpose are the 25” and 6” ones from the 1860s in the British Library. Thames Water was very helpful, in allowing access to their maps in the Abbey Mills archives. Transco were also contacted, as streams ran through former gasworks sites.

Most watercourses in Haringey flow eastwards towards the River Lea, although Mutton Brook is the exception, flowing westwards to East Finchley. Strawberry Vale Brook rises near the former Green Man pub in East Finchley, and runs alongside the North Circular Road to join Bounds Green Brook, which flows into Pymmes Brook in Arnos Park. In the early 1800s plans were made by the Regent’s Canal Company to use Strawberry Vale Brook to feed into a new reservoir on Finchley Common, to supply water for their new canal. This idea was abandoned, and was superseded in 1835 by the creation of the Welsh Harp reservoir.



David showed the routes of the streams, both on contour maps and superimposed onto road maps. These included Coldfall, Golf Course Stream, Muswell Stream and Strawberry Vale and Bounds Green Brooks. He traced their routes with photos through the existing landscape. Many of these, although now largely culverted, can still be followed in the gaps between buildings and small depressions in woodlands and roads. All these watercourses are liable to flooding, and have to be respected. Most of us go about our lives unaware of the network of natural waterways beneath our feet.

This work has inspired a similar project to be started for the Enfield and Barnet areas.

Colin Barratt

GEOFF BONE

Geoff is a former Chairman of the Trust, and is still a member of the Executive Committee. A few weeks ago he suffered a slight stroke and was in hospital for a while. We are pleased to report that Geoff has now returned home and is recovering. We send him our best wishes to get well soon.



News from Civic Voice

Campaign for fair planning

Civic Voice has been involved with understanding and highlighting the impacts of the new National Planning Policy Framework and the Localism Bill. They have been discussing with member societies and providing informed feedback to ministers.

Heritage Open Days

Civic Voice is now responsible for Heritage Open Days, working in partnership with the National Trust and The Heritage Alliance and supported by English Heritage. A growing number of civic societies participate and over one million people get involved. Heritage Open Days will run between 6 and 9 September 2012.

Vacancies on the Civic Voice Planning Panel

The Civic Voice Planning Panel of volunteers supports and advises staff on the development of their views in response to official consultations and inquiries. It also helps identify and debate contentious issues and strengthen debate within the civic movement. If you are interested in joining this panel see the Civic Voice website for details.

Workshops

Civic Voice regularly runs workshops to assist the member societies. The most recent ones have been in other parts of the country, but look out for more via Civic Voice. If there are ones run in London, it is hoped that someone from Southgate District Civic Trust will be able to attend.

Recent examples are:

Attracting more volunteers – This free workshop aims to help agree practical steps to find more volunteers for local group. These will include the results of new research based on civic societies experiences in attracting support and provide an opportunity to meet with other groups.

Neighbourhood Planning - The Localism Bill introduces the concept of Neighbourhood Planning: a bottom-up approach to planning for the future of an area led by the community. Civic groups now have a real opportunity to develop plans and shape proposals for the places they live in.

However, many questions have been raised: what is a neighbourhood? How do we produce a plan? Who is responsible for preparing them? The workshops hope to help answer these questions, and many more.

2012 Civic Trust award winners

These awards celebrate outstanding architecture & built environment projects

From 306 national and international entries, 52 projects have been recognised by the prestigious Civic Trust Awards at a ceremony held at The Hub in Edinburgh supported by the City of Edinburgh Council. Awards were presented to the best new buildings, public spaces, restorations and public art by Civic Trust Awards Patron, architect and TV presenter George Clarke and Civic Trust Awards Managing Director Malcolm Hankey.

The 2012 winners' brochure is available to download from the website www.civictrustawards.org.uk.

Jane Maggs

OPEN MEETING—3rd MARCH 2012

Alan Sitkin: The Regeneration and Future Developments in the Ladderswood, Bowes and Pinkham Way Area

Alan Sitkin became a Councillor for Bowes Ward at the last election and is also Chair of the Sustainability and Environment Scrutiny Panel.

The subject of this meeting concerned areas of interest to many of our members, so it was not surprising we had a larger than normal attendance by both members and visitors. Our MP David Burrowes was also in the audience. The meeting largely took the form of Alan giving a brief presentation on each area, followed by questions and a lively discussion.

The meeting started with Pinkham Way and the North London Waste Plan. As the site is situated in Haringey, this is not a planning decision for the London Borough of Enfield (LBE), even though there is a large impact on Enfield. Councillors from LBE have lodged their objections, as have many residents. It is unclear at this time whether Haringey Council will approve the scheme, although a local resident was able to provide the meeting with an update from a recent Council meeting she had attended.

The final conclusion was that the matter is still under discussion, and we should continue to lobby the GLA and the London Mayor.

The meeting then moved on to the North Circular. Here Alan was able to report that the road works carried out by Transport for London (TfL) were almost complete. LBE have asked for some changes, for example an increase in the number of trees planted along the road, to reduce noise and improve air quality.



The housing along the North Circular is being developed by Notting Hill Housing Association. Their plans currently include a high density of housing, but no increase in amenities such as schools, GPs etc, to support the number of people moving into the area. The discussions between the housing association and LBE are continuing. The subject again produced a lively debate on various impacts of the scheme and how it could be possible to resolve the issues around amenities. The discussion then developed into the provision of school places and potential plans to increase these. There was concern expressed about both Broomfield and Bowes Schools.

The final part of the meeting moved on to Southgate Town Hall and its sale to developers. Alan explained that reluctantly the LBE had decided to sell the site, in order to provide the money needed to renovate and develop Palmers Green Library, which local residents have made very clear they wanted to keep. A member of the audience raised the request made by a local group to develop the Town Hall as a school. This has been evaluated, but the particular scheme would not have addressed the local schools issues, so was not supported by the council.

There were further questions from the audience which continued during the tea break and beyond.

This was a lively meeting, covering a number of areas key to our members. Inevitably, with a meeting like this, not all questions were answered in the depth perhaps wanted, but it gave us an opportunity to debate and understand the plans that will impact our environment.

If you attended the meeting, it would be interesting to know your views.

Jane Maggs

BROOMFIELD HOUSE RESTORATION UPDATE

AGM of the Broomfield House Trust

On 27th February some SDCT members attended this meeting, which also included a discussion with Cllr Mike Brown on the future of Broomfield House. For full details see the article on N21.net:

<http://n21.net/latest-broomfield-house-news/545-the-broomfield-house-trust-agm-january-2012.html>

Meeting with Councillors

On 15th March a meeting was held between Cllrs Mike Brown and Del Goddard, Laki Marangos (Friends of Broomfield Park) and Roger Blows (Broomfield House Trust). This followed the Council's meeting with the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) concerning the restoration plans.

The proposal involving housing in the restored house and the stable yard is currently the Council's preferred option. However, there is a growing demand by the community for an alternative solution. The estimated restoration cost is over £3M. Cllrs Goddard and Brown are developing value v cost profiles for a number of options. The HLF require that the two proposed ground floor flats are removed from the house to allow full use of the ground floor for community uses. These would be relocated to the stable block. Other options are being explored, including sole use of the house by the community. This option may result in more intensive development within the stable block.

A major concern of the Council is the ongoing expenditure for the house, estimated at approx. £100K pa. They needed to be sure that they will not be required to take over a loss-making setup.

Next steps

It was explained that the HLF would expect to see an "Activity Plan", based on community/learning/arts uses, as the heart of any successful bid. The Council wished to engage with community groups to prepare ideas. They would then need to prepare a Business Plan as part of a viable package.

A workshop was arranged for 24th April for interested parties. This would consider the costed options, and develop an Activity Plan. The Council would then proceed to a Stage 1 bid to the HLF in June.

This was a positive meeting, and it was recognised that the community's input was key for the involvement of the HLF.

SDCT ACTIVITIES

Some of the recent activities by our members:

Cigarette butts at Southgate Station

You may have noticed the large piles of cigarette butts around the station and particularly the bike park. This has been raised with the waste team at Enfield Council, and continues to be part of an ongoing discussion on the street cleaning of Southgate.

For more details contact Jane Maggs (jane.maggs@btinternet.com)

New Southgate Masterplan

Various members have been attending the resident's panel meetings, as well as the various exhibitions mounted to show an update on the plans. Planning permission for the development of Ladderswood Estate is expected to be given in the near future, so that the work can begin. *For more details contact Graham Beech or Colin Barratt*

Development of King Easton site in Winchmore Hill

Various members living near the site, particularly in Compton Terrace have been in touch with the Council and planning department to raise concerns over the development of this site. Local residents are alarmed by changes being made, which do not appear to be part of the original approved plans. As this is a site in the heart of a conservation area, the SDCT has an important role in ensuring the development is appropriate to the area.

Are you involved with local events, campaigns or attended meetings about something impacting our area. Let the other members know through the newsletter or website. Contact Jane Maggs (jane.maggs@btinternet.com) or Colin Barratt (colin_barratt@yahoo.co.uk)

NEW NOTICEBOARD FOR THE TRUST

The new noticeboard, which was mentioned in the last newsletter, has recently been installed by First Capital Connect in the waiting room of Palmers Green Station, which will be for the exclusive use of the Trust. We were informed a few months ago that this would be provided, and material had been prepared in readiness.

Peter Hodge, Colin Barratt and Richard Purver have mounted the publicity material on the board, and Peter and Colin are shown with the finished board in the photo below. We wanted to include information about the Trust's activities and events, membership details and local historical photos. The material will be changed and updated as required. Any comments will be welcomed.



ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

At present, about 20 members have agreed to receive their newsletter by email. There are a number of advantages to this:

- It saves the Trust money, as less have to be printed and posted
- Members receive the newsletter several days earlier, as it can be despatched as soon as it's completed
- Where colour photos are included, they can remain in colour, not converted to black and white
- Newsletters can be stored on computer, rather than as paper copies, so saving space and paper

We are now extending the number of electronic newsletters to some non members, who receive complementary copies, and we would like to encourage more members to take it this way. For this edition, printed copies are being sent to members as usual, but it has also been sent electronically to all members whose email addresses we have, (about 60), to show how it looks.

Please consider requesting future copies by email. Let us know by 1st June if you would be willing to receive it electronically.

Colin & Mary Barratt

HISTORY GROUP MEETING – 4th JULY 2012

London's Transport from 1800 to 2000



This will be an illustrated talk by David Clark from the London Transport Museum. It will cover road, rail and tram transport over this 200 year period, and will include many interesting photos of vehicles in the Capital.

For those anoraks among you, (sorry – enthusiasts), this picture is of an NS motor bus from the 1920s, which is in the Museum's Acton Depot reserve collection. It was the first London bus to be fitted with pneumatic tyres, a covered roof and a driver's windscreen.

ALL MEMBERS WELCOME

DVDs & DATA DISK FOR SALE

Many members will be aware of the Edgar Chard videos: **Southgate – A Glimpse of the Past (1950)** and **Southgate Celebrates the Coronation (1953)**. These have now been attractively repackaged as DVDs, and we hope to have some available for sale at the Christchurch May Fair and at our AGM.

We also hope to have available copies of a searchable data disk of **The Recorder** local newspaper, which was published between 1907 and 1916. This disk holds a treasure trove of local history of the period, and was created by David Cooper. It will be supplied with instructions for use.

The copying and packaging of these DVDs and data disk were done by our IT expert, Hugh Humphrey, to whom we are very grateful.



The newly planted trees on the railway embankment at Green Dragon Lane, Grange Park.

The trees are in blossom, but the area around still looks bare and desolate.

NOMINATION FORM – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 12th May 2012

To: The Secretary,
Southgate District Civic Trust,
108 Chelmsford Road,
Southgate, N14 4JL

From: _____

I wish to nominate _____ for election as:

A. An officer of the Trust, in the post of _____

B. A Member of the Executive Committee
(Delete as appropriate)

Signed: _____ Date: _____

I agree to be nominated for the above position. Signed: _____

Address: _____



SOUTHGATE DISTRICT CIVIC TRUST – MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Your subscription for the year 2012-2013 is now due, and it will help if you can please use this form, and send it with your payment to the Treasurer as soon as possible. At the same time we will be pleased to receive any additional donation to the Trust that you may like to give. Many thanks for your ongoing support.

THE AMOUNTS FOR MEMBERSHIP ARE:-

Non-Pensioner Household £7

Pensioner Household £4

To: Alastair Palmar
Treasurer
Southgate District Civic Trust
5 Tintern Gardens
Southgate
London, N14 6AS

I enclose my 2012/13 subscription £ _____

I also enclose a donation of: £ _____

Total: £ _____

Date: _____

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail address: _____

