

Southgate District Civic Voice

Newsletter No.266
January 2024

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SDCV SPRING OPEN MEETING Saturday 3rd February at 2.30pm

A talk on the Piccadilly line extension north of Arnos Grove to Southgate and Cockfosters

In 2023 we celebrated the 90th anniversary of the opening of Southgate Station in style.

One of our key events was a talk by **Transport for London's (TfL) Heritage Managers Gareth Leslie and Edmund Bird**, which was hugely popular and oversubscribed.

So, we are running it again!! See page 10 for details

Other dates to note:	Sat. 20th April	Better Homes for Enfield in Walker Lower Hall (see page 6)
	Sat. 18th May	SDCV Annual General Meeting in Walker Lower Hall (see page 6) (More details in the next newsletter)

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Contributions to the January newsletter should be sent by Friday 22nd March 2024
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Note:- Copies will be emailed, hand delivered or posted during week commencing **8th April 2024**

Southgate District Civic Voice ~ 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**).

SDCV MEETING - 21st October 2023

What Happens to London's Rubbish?

There was a good turnout for this member only meeting, to hear an interesting talk about our rubbish by Trudi Axtens from North London Waste Authority (NLWA).

She covered a wide expanse of waste management issues and it will be difficult to capture it all in a short article. So, this is just a few highlights.

Trudi started by explaining that NLWA is a statutory waste disposal authority (WDA), serving a quarter of the population of London and 3% of the UK. They receive the waste collected by the seven constituent boroughs (Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Hackney, Haringey, Islington and Waltham Forest) and arrange for the disposal, recycling and composting of waste, as well as overseeing household reuse and recycling centres.



NLWA is the second largest waste disposal authority in the country by volume of waste. It is governed by 14 members including two councillors from each of the seven north London boroughs, mainly by a levy placed on boroughs for waste services and by charges for the management of some types of waste.

Residents in the seven boroughs produce around 800,000 tonnes of waste per year.

Much of the talk was about recycling, with information on some of the projects they are supporting such as school uniform re-use, sustainable design etc. A long term Joint Waste Strategy is being prepared to set out how the boroughs and NLWA will manage the waste collected from households and businesses in the area. NLWA is also lobbying government to improve legislation e.g. banning single use plastics, deposit return system and taking action to reduce waste food.

Trudi talked about the redevelopment of the site in Edmonton. This inevitably drew several questions in the Q&A session.



The NLWA believe that building a new facility in Edmonton, to the highest standards, is the most environmentally responsible and best value solution. Alongside this development will be new recycling facilities. Many of the statements were challenged, particularly on CO₂ emissions, but as the building has been approved it will go ahead regardless of the arguments raised by local residents.

Questions were also asked about recycling bins and some of the challenges faced, particularly by residents in flats. New legislation due to be introduced, should hopefully resolve some of these issues.

There is more information about NLWA on their website: www.nlwa.gov.uk



At the meeting the return, later this year, of site visits to the EcoPark was discussed. As a result, SDCV is planning to organise a visit as soon as practical. More details will be included in later newsletters.

The discussions on recycling raised a number of concerns by members of the audience. Particularly around what action we can take. One aspect raised with those of us doing the refreshments, was our use of the cups we had assumed were recyclable. It seems that they are not in fact as green as we thought.

It illustrated the point that the whole area of recycling is more complicated than appears at first sight. It also made us consider how SDCV can reduce waste. One suggestion is to encourage attendees to bring their own reusable cup. What else? Please let us know what you would like us to do.

Jane Maggs

Photos: Mervyn Maggs



Civic Voice Update

Civic Voice AGM 2nd December 2023

The Civic Voice AGM took place in a very festive Chester, but it was very cold, a storm raged and then the trains didn't run properly, so several delegates could not attend. Against this backdrop Chester Civic Society provided a welcome in their historic headquarters in Bishop Lloyds Palace.



During the AGM, Martin Hamilton, Chair, provided updates on Civic Voice activities from 2023, including our work on the APPG for Civic Societies. He updated members on our fundraising appeal and answered questions on our Governance. As you are aware Civic Voice has had struggles in 2022-2023, Martin expressed thanks to the many member societies who continue to support our work. With this

support we now look forward to 2024.

After the official business, our Joint-Founder, Ian Harvey, led discussions on "The Future of the Civic Movement" and "What we should include in a Civic Movement Manifesto for 2024." There was also a discussion about the recent announcement by Historic England on blue plaques.

In 2024 the Membership Monday and In Conversation events will continue. Please check on: <https://www.civicvoice.org.uk/get-involved/events/> for new events that you can benefit from as a Civic Voice member.

At the AGM, Andrew Evans and Andrew Jackson were elected to the Civic Voice board, but unfortunately Peter Karpinski has stepped down as his period as a Trustee came to an end. Peter has been a valuable Trustee, I will miss his contribution to our discussions and decisions.



Jane Maggs

SDCV's SECRETARY

Can you help?

Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances, our Secretary *Preenal Gondhea* has had to stand aside. This role is critical to the efficient running of our organisation, so we urgently need a new Secretary.

Key question - can you help?

Honestly, it's a great role within our society.

But, we really need someone to take this on to keep SDCV going as an efficient campaigning organisation.

The main and most critical duties are to organise (with the Chair) our Executive Committee meetings and AGM, plus take the minutes. We meet 4 or 5 times a year, so roughly every 2 months. Also, to monitor the mailbox responding to any e-mails as appropriate and undertaking any administrative tasks as necessary. In reality, this is passing on the mails to the rest of the committee and keeping everyone informed.

Over the years the committee has reorganised how we do things, so have been able to make the role less time consuming.

Want more information?

If you would like more information or a chat about the role, please contact me via info@southgatedistrictcivicvoice.org.

If you are unable to take on the full role but could help with taking the meeting minutes – that would be a great help, so please let me know.

If this is not for you, but you would like to be more involved, we would welcome anyone who would like to join the Planning Group, Publications team, Newsletter team or publicity. Without volunteers getting stuck in, this society cannot keep doing the great stuff we do!

Jane Maggs

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

Your subscription for the year 2024/25 is due on

1st APRIL 2024

and remains unchanged at £15 for the year.

A renewal form will be sent to you at the beginning of March 2024.

ENFIELD'S LOCAL PLAN

Members will recall the consultation on Enfield's draft Local Plan that took place during 2022, known as the Regulation 18 consultation. SDCV had concerns about the proposed housing developments across the Green Belt, including the open land immediately to the east of Trent Country Park and about the inappropriate location of proposed tall buildings. SDCV submitted detailed objections to the Plan.

The Council has now studied over 7,000 comments that were submitted and produced a revised Plan known as Regulation 19. The revised Plan is available on the Council's website. See <https://www.enfield.gov.uk/services/planning/new-enfield-local-plan>

Little has changed in the revised Plan, despite the vast majority of comments being opposed to both Green Belt development and tall buildings. The Council has referred to some support for Green Belt development, but that has come entirely from developers or landowners wishing to maximise the value of their land. Our concerns remain that development on the Green Belt misses the opportunity to develop brown field sites including underused retail parks and that tall buildings do not provide the family housing that local people need. Developers will inevitably choose to develop on open farmland rather than previously occupied sites.

The current proposals give residents the opportunity to raise concerns with their local councillors, but it is not part of the statutory consultation process. It is expected that the revised Plan will be considered at a full Council meeting in early March and a 6 week statutory consultation period will then follow. Comments submitted during the 6 week period will be passed to the Government appointed Planning Inspector for a future Examination of the Plan along with all the submissions made under Regulation 18. Comments submitted before the consultation period will not be seen by the Inspector. SDCV is therefore proposing to submit comments during the formal period.

One of the changes between the Regulation 18 and 19 proposals is that the Council has added Palmers Green to the potential sites for tall buildings. This is similar to the proposals for Southgate and Enfield Town. If the Plan is agreed, developers would be able to develop a 10-12 storey building on the Morrisons / Travis Perkins site or Palmers Green station car park. Similar buildings would be agreed at Southgate Circus and Enfield Town. In all these cases, the buildings would dominate adjoining Conservation Areas and in the case of Palmers Green, there would be a significant impact on views across Broomfield Park.

If you agree that the proposals are unsatisfactory, please raise your concerns with your local councillors and support SDCV's work to oppose these aspects of the Plan.

John West

SDCV MEETINGS IN 2024

What we've planned so far ...

Several meetings are planned for early 2024 and this is to give you details and dates for your diary.

Saturday 3rd February 2.30pm at The Southgate Club

A talk by **Gareth Leslie** and **Edmund Bird** Transport for London's (TfL) Heritage Managers on the **Piccadilly line extension north of Arnos Grove to Southgate and Cockfosters**

This is an updated repeat of the talk they gave last year when we marked the 90th anniversary of the opening of Southgate Station. It was incredibly popular and oversubscribed!! *So, we are running it again.*

See full details in separate article on page 10.

Saturday 20th April 2.30pm at Walker Lower Hall

A talk by **Matt Burn** from **Better Homes for Enfield**

Better Homes Enfield is a local independent group campaigning for more affordable housing across Enfield. This talk will give us an opportunity to discuss a range of planning and housing issues impacting us all.

For more information on *Better Homes for Enfield* visit www.betterhomes-enfield.org

Saturday 18th May 2.30pm at Walker Lower Hall

SDCV AGM followed by a talk – the speaker is yet to be confirmed. More details in the next newsletter.

A LARGE AND MAINLY UMBRELLA-ED CROWD: THE SOUTHGATE FLITCH TRIAL OF 1937

In my article *No Regrets: The Southgate Flitch Trials of 1933 and 1949* (Newsletter 257, July 2021) I wrote about these two local instances of the revived medieval folk custom still held at Great Dunmow in Essex in which married couples win a flitch of bacon if they can convince a jury of six spinsters and six bachelors they have not quarrelled for a year and a day. I recently came across a third flitch trial, which like the others took place in Broomfield Park and was part of the celebrations on King George VI's coronation day, Wednesday 12 May 1937.

Unalloyed by a Solitary Tiff

The official programme for the celebrations invited married couples resident in Southgate for a year and a day 'who can prove that they have enjoyed for the whole of that period complete conjugal happiness – unbroken by a single quarrel, unalloyed by a solitary tiff' to claim the award of a flitch of bacon. If more than one couple proved their claim to the Flitch – to be presented by Messrs J Sainsbury Ltd – it would be divided accordingly. Entries with particulars of names and addresses and dates of marriage were to be sent to the secretary of the Entertainments Committee at [Southgate] Town Hall in Palmers Green. The Southgate Borough Council members who would be taking part in the proceedings were Aldermen W[illiam] H[enry] Pullinger and G[eorge] B[ilton] Massa and Councillors A[ndrew] Home-Morton, T[om] Mason and G[eorge] Peverett.

(continued over)

The Southgate Flitch was also publicised in the *Palmers Green and Southgate Gazette* of 7 May with its time and location of 4.30 at the bandstand lawn (referred to as the rose lawn in the following week's report of the occasion) as well as the *Wood Green and Southgate Weekly Herald*, with both covering Coronation Week in their 14 May editions. The events included a service of prayer and dedication, an athletic meeting, a health and beauty display and fireworks in Broomfield Park; a supper for old folk and a dance at Selborne Hall; the crowning of the May Queen by the mayoress Mrs Annie Wauthier at Oakwood School; the opening of Tatem Recreation Ground and Children's Boundary Playing Field and Hazelwood and Bramley sports grounds by her husband the mayor Herbert Wauthier; and the planting of trees (on Coronation Day) in Oakwood Park by him and deputy mayor John Joy, which inaugurated the Coronation Avenue of Lombardy poplars which is now such a notable feature along the northern boundary of the park.



In Broomfield Park on the day itself the itinerary was for the mayor to place a wreath on the cairn in the Garden of Remembrance in memory of the men of Southgate who fell in the war, the opening of the two-day Southgate and District Horticultural Show, a children's physical fitness display, dancing on the bandstand lawn, a funfair, Punch and Judy, a military band and the broadcast of the King's speech. There were also to be two other contemporary interpretations of ancient customs apart from the flitch, a demonstration of folk dancing arranged by the North-East Middlesex Branch of the English Folk Dance and Song Society and a pageant version of Sir Edward German's opera *Merrie England* by the Southgate Operatic Association. This had also been performed at Alexandra Palace and was to be revived in 1953, as can be seen in the film *Southgate Celebrates the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II* (available from SDCV).¹

Thousands Squelch in Broomfield Park

Unfortunately the day's events were badly affected by the weather, as indicated by the banner headlines in the *Gazette* reading *A Mass in a Mess / Thousands Squelch in Broomfield Park* while the *Herald* said the crowds were *Drenched But*

Not Downcast. The two planned performances of *Merrie England* were washed out (although it was also scheduled for other days during the week) and the dancing – both folk and at the bandstand lawn – was cancelled.² However the flitch trial still went ahead and detailed accounts were given in both papers: the *Gazette* report was headed *May Their Rashers Be Crisp Ones! / Flitch Goes To Golden Wedding Couple / Earned a Herd of Pigs, Says Counsel / So Nice "To Go For Trial"* and the *Herald's* *Laughter in Court! / Southgate Couple On Trial For "Flitch" / Quips Judicial – and injudicial*.

As in the September 1933 trial which was held during the Charter celebrations when Southgate became a municipal borough the judge in the case was Councillor Andrew Home-Morton ('in the cutest wig' and conducting his Court with 'a ready wit and something which was almost roguish') and Counsel for the Flitch now-Alderman and soon-to-be mayor G B Massa. Counsel for the Claimants was local historian and then-councillor Tom Mason, a role he also took at the 1949 trial (George Peverett was involved on all three occasions). The *Herald's* take was that "'Judge" Cr. Home-Martin officiated with a lamentable but manifest bias against the entire state of matrimony – he has been married for only thirty years himself, he said, but the way he said it sounded as though he has already had enough. Cr. Tom Mason [was] incorrigibly romantic and saccharine in his sentimentality' and Alderman Massa 'the hard-hearted villain of the piece'.

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This time though the jury was dispensed with and the verdict given by a show of hands from the audience, with ‘the proceedings, watched by a large and mainly umbrella-ed crowd ... as informal as could be’ or as the *Herald* put it ‘In the presence of some hundred jurymen and women, all looking anything but judicial as they sat around the bandstand, clutching umbrellas and newspapers above their heads to keep off the rain, the couple were put on trial ... And how the Coronation crowd chuckled and grinned and guffawed ... There never was so much laughter in court, and it is to be hoped never will be again’.

It turned out that only one couple in Southgate – James William Williams and his wife [Sarah Ann] of 8 Highfield Road Winchmore Hill – had had enough courage ‘to come forward to publicly testify to their complete happiness’ (as distinct from two couples in 1933 and three in 1949). They had been married 51 years, which prompted their counsel to give the view that this ‘entitled him not to a flitch of bacon but to a whole herd of pigs!’.



Mr Williams looked after cows before retirement and had lived in Winchmore Hill about four years. The *Herald* noted that ‘When the fond hubby ... with a look at his wife which may, of course, have been accidental, related that he had been looking after cows all his life, the court was in a positive uproar!’. The *Gazette* reported that he told his counsel he met his wife at a Harvest Festival and they did their courting in the open air: “‘In your spare time?’” suggested counsel. “‘I never had any spare time,’” was Mr Williams’ reply. “‘Then when did you do your courting?’” “‘After my spare time,’” volunteered the claimant. At this point the Judge began to make copious notes. Perhaps he was trying to work out the answer. Asked how he courted when the weather was wet, claimant replied simply, “‘I didn’t’”.

Gleam of Determination

The *Gazette* reporter had detected a gleam of determination in Mr Williams’s eyes as he went on trial to claim the Southgate Flitch and having robustly seen off his own counsel he was ready for Counsel for the Flitch who ‘made a bad start in cross-examining Mr Williams by asking him, “Did you once think your wife was the most wonderful woman in the world?” “I still do,” answered claimant, scoring one clear point with evident gusto’. He maintained he and his wife had lived together without a single quarrel during the prescribed period and in response to Alderman Massa pursuing him ‘relentlessly’ in asking him didn’t his wife ever talk about the man next door and say what a nice-looking fellow he was, replied (to laughter) “no, he’s a policeman!”. Something of a non sequitur perhaps but effective in the circumstances and besides James’s neighbour at 10 Highfield Road, Walter Brickett actually was a constable with the Metropolitan Police (as recorded in the 1939 Register, by which time he had moved with his wife Elizabeth nearby to 15 Carpenter Gardens).

When it came to her turn in the witness box Mrs Williams ‘with very good humour supported her husband’s case under a battery of questions. She had brought up seven children and had 24 grandchildren – and triplets among them. (Applause.)’. Asked were they to quarrel who would have the last word Mrs Williams answered emphatically she should of course, adding ‘with an angelic beam at hubby, “But he wouldn’t mind that!”’. All the court was sympathetic when she declared that her husband used to give her all his wages every week and “it was only twelve shillings, so it wasn’t much to keep seven children out of” but ‘even that touch of homely heroism did not melt [Alderman Massa]:

“And used you to buy your husband’s tobacco out of that?” he enquired, with a satanic leer.

“I did!” upspoke Mrs. Williams.

“Wish I’d married you!” murmured the Alderman beneath his breath’.

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The ‘vitriolic aspersions and rapier-like verbal thrusts’ of Alderman Massa had failed to make Mr and Mrs Williams change their tale and after his summing-up the judge ‘having sought an expression of opinion from the crowd, ordered the flitch to be sent to the claimants – “to be boiled, fried or otherwise dealt with.” Thus justice was satisfied – and undoubtedly the best man won, although Alderman Massa could not be restrained from giving notice of appeal’.

The 2022 Dunmow Flitch Trials

In the July 2022 Dunmow Flitch Trials (postponed from 2020 because of the coronavirus pandemic and viewable on YouTube) which I went to with friends on

a warm and sunny day, five couples put in a claim for the flitch (one of whom was vegetarian), with three being successful and two failing to convince the jury (although they did receive a compensatory gammon). It was a very enjoyable occasion with much fun and hilarity involved and an interesting opportunity to witness a surviving folk custom which the local community puts a lot of effort into organising every four years, with the next one due on 13 July 2024.

¹ The *Herald* of 14 May praised the official efforts of the Borough Council and the unofficial efforts of householders and shopkeepers in bedecking ‘the streets and roads of Southgate ... right royally for the occasion with flags and streamers, banners and bunting ... Scarce a house that does not flaunt some patriotic emblem, however humble, while many there are, tiny villas as well as the larger houses, that are ablaze with colour – some with giant Union Jacks fluttering from lofty poles, others festooned with all the hues of the rainbow ... Features of the official decorations are the towering pylon at Southgate Circus, diffusing multi-coloured beams by night; while Broomfield Park after dark takes on effects Venetian, with fairy lights strung amid the trees and subterranean floodlighting of the lakes’.

² The cancellation meant spectators were not able to watch the programmed dances Dargason, Bacca Pipes, Newcastle, Yorkshire Square and Morpeth Rant. The Massed Morris Dancing from the celebrations in Broomfield Park for George V’s silver jubilee in 1935 was not included but ‘all friends, etc., of folk dancing’ had been invited to join in a country dance party featuring items such as Christchurch Bells, Merry Milkmaids, Durham Reel and Mock Hobby Horse.

Images: Coronation programme and James and Sarah Williams, Palmers Green and Southgate Gazette 14 May 1937 courtesy of Enfield Local Studies and Archive; Broomfield Park bandstand (March 2019) by R.P.

Richard Purver

Changes to Enfield’s Library Service

Enfield Local Studies and Archive: the Local Studies search room is in the process of moving from the Civic Centre to join the archive collection at Ridge Avenue Library, leading to the library being closed until 24 January while the necessary work is carried out. As previously an appointment system will operate for local history enquiries.

Developing a New Library Service for Enfield: due to funding pressures Enfield Council say they have to ‘consider whether our library service can be delivered in a more efficient way, while ensuring that it continues to meet people’s needs and is comprehensive’ and have arranged a public consultation via a questionnaire (available online) and drop-in sessions at the libraries during January, with a closing date of 6 March.

(See page 13 for further details)



SDCV SPRING OPEN MEETING

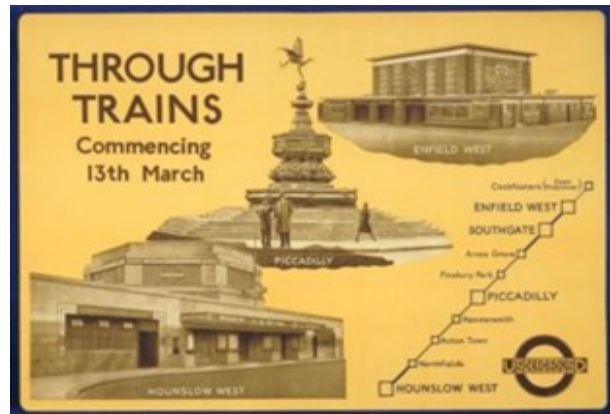
Saturday 3rd February at 2.30pm

A talk on the Piccadilly line extension north of Arnos Grove to Southgate and Cockfosters

On *19th September 1932* the first phase of the Piccadilly Line extension to Arnos Grove opened. The line was then further extended to Enfield West (Oakwood) on *13th March 1933* and finally to Cockfosters on *31st July 1933*.

In 2023 we celebrated the 90th anniversary of the opening of Southgate Station in style.

One of our key events was a talk by **Transport for London's (TfL) Heritage Managers Gareth Leslie and Edmund Bird** which was hugely popular and oversubscribed. *So, we are running it again!!*



They will talk about this stretch of the line and Southgate station in particular, its renowned architect Charles Holden and its design and architectural features which have been recognised by Historic England's Grade II* designation – one of only five at this grade on the 272 station network.



In addition, they will discuss the challenges of maintaining and adapting a station of this age, distinguished architectural pedigree and outstanding heritage protection status as a modern transport hub and retail offer will also be appraised. This will also give us all an opportunity to hear about the current status of the station refurbishment.

This talk will be held in the **Southgate Club** (17 Chase Side, Southgate, London N14 5BP) close to the station. The club was established by 1820 (or perhaps earlier), see their website (www.southgateclub.com) for more information on the club's history. So, it makes a fitting venue to hear about other aspects of our local history.

Everyone is welcome to this talk, which is free to members of SDCV. For non-members tickets cost £5 (including a non-refundable booking fee).

To attend the meeting, you must register in advance, but be aware that the tickets will probably go quickly! Please go to:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sdcv-meeting-90-years-of-the-piccadilly-line-extension-passed-arnos-grove-tickets-793321494947>

Do please pass the details of this meeting on to anyone who may be interested.

Jane Maggs



LONDON FORUM OPEN MEETING: Is Building on London's Green Belt Inevitable?

16th January 2024, 6pm at The Gallery, Alan Baxter, 77 Cowcross Street, London, EC1M 6E

This is a meeting to discuss building on London's Green Belt using Enfield as an example. The speakers will be:

The Enfield Society's Dave Cockle and John West will present the work they have done on alternatives to development on Enfield's Green Belt.

Mike Kiely, Chair of the Planning Officers Society will ask the big questions about the current policy for developing in the Green Belt within London, and whether the "exceptional circumstances" required to justify building there are likely to be invoked more frequently in the future.

Economist, Samuel Watling, speaking on behalf of Priced Out will argue that the definition of Green Belt is largely arbitrary, and a product of political choices, and that development opportunities on Green Belt land should be considered on their merits.

CPRE London's Alice Roberts will make the case that such incursions as that mooted for Enfield are neither necessary nor desirable.

This should be an interesting and thought-provoking discussion.

Members of SDCV are invited to attend London Forum events.

Please book your place: <https://www.londonforum.org.uk/events/is-building-on-the-green-belt-inevitable/?occurrence=2024-01-16>

SOUTHGATE PROJECTS

There seem to be lots of projects happening in Southgate at the moment, at different stages in their progress. So, a brief update on what's happening.

Curate Southgate – A Portrait of Southgate

The public art champions for this project have included SDCV members, so it is a project that we have been following closely. The final artist brief was issued in October and attracted artists from a wide range of different disciplines. After considering the various ideas, the champions commissioned community artists and mosaic art specialists *Alex McHallam* and *Liz Tiranti* for the project.

We are all delighted to be working with these two artists whose proposals captured the essence of Southgate for the art trail. The next stage will be a conversation with local groups to create the final designs and the mosaics. There will be more news in the next few months as the project develops.

Festival of Industry in Southgate

Sew Some Seeds & Shed Some Light

A FREE creative session with **Extraordinary Design**

Thursday 11th January 3pm – 5.30pm in Southgate Library.

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Join artist **Dan Maier**, who will be showing her ideas for her Festival of Industry public art commission at *Southgate Library*. Learn about the designs and enjoy creative activities including sewing seeds and making upcycled tea-light lanterns in this interactive drop-in consultation session.

This event is a free drop-in session and the activities will take around 30mins.

The final installation for the Festival of Industry will be a stained-glass effect window design inspired by former local horticultural firm Cuthbert's Seeds, which is to be installed in February 2024. Cuthbert's Seeds was founded in Southgate in 1797 and became the largest horticultural supplier to Woolworths.



Responding to the communities call for a greener Southgate, Dan's aim is to create a vibrant plant-inspired artwork to reinvigorate the library.

This event and the commissioned artwork is part of Enfield's Festival of Industry. See more about the festival at www.enfieldfestivalofindustry.com

Greening Chase Side



Following the feedback received by the team at Enfield Council during the walkabout in October, the team has developed some initial ideas for green improvements along the pavements of Chase Side.

The council team have arranged another community engagement event in Southgate for the Greening Chase Side project, where they would like to present their ideas and discuss them with residents and other stakeholders.

The event will take place on **Thursday 11th January** at **The Southgate Club** on Chase Side from 5pm to 7pm.

This is a great opportunity to have a say on how our town centre could or should develop.

Southgate Bus Station Clock

You may have noticed that the wonderful clock in Station Parade has lost its hands and hour markers.

Do not fret, Gareth Leslie (TfL) has commissioned Cumbria Clocks of Penrith to restore the bus station clock with grant-funding from the *Heritage of London Trust*.

The clock is being restored at their workshops before being returned to be reinstated in its restored glory.

We look forward to seeing it back together and keeping the buses to time.



Kevin Eva – Southgate Station's Customer Services Manager

Last year when it was decided that we need to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the opening of Southgate Station, the main person getting the rest of TfL behind the plan and getting things done was *Kevin Eva*.

He has been a delight to work with and we appreciated his enthusiasm for the station. Over many years he has been quietly working to get things done.

So, we were delighted to discover that he was nominated for an award at the *National Transport Awards*. At the ceremony he was Highly Commended in the *Frontline Employee / Community Champion of the Year* category.

This is a real testament to everything he has done in Southgate. Well done Kevin.



He can be seen in the picture cutting the cake at the 90th celebration.

Jane Maggs

Images: courtesy of Enfield Council
Photos: Mervyn Maggs

Developing a New Library Strategy for Enfield Enfield Council is Consulting

Details

Enfield must provide a comprehensive and efficient library service for people who live, work or study in the borough. This includes books and access to digital resources, quiet spaces for study and reflection, access to support groups and social activities for all ages, health and wellbeing support, makerspaces, training and employment advice.



However, like all local authorities, the Council is facing significant funding pressures. The Council has had a 42% reduction in overall funding since 2010 and therefore it must make savings. The question is where those savings will be made. The Council is looking at how it can deliver library services in a more efficient way, while continuing to meet our needs.

This consultation is the first part of that review.

What is at stake?

Our libraries are incredibly important. They can be our children's first introduction to books and to the joy of reading. They can introduce us to new and different authors, expand our horizons or just let us read for fun. For residents without a computer, they allow access to the digital world we all need to navigate.



Like everything we have to use our libraries, or we will lose them.

This consultation is important so we can show we need and want to keep our libraries and all the services they provide.

How you can share your views

Go to: <https://www.enfield.gov.uk/consultations/library-engagement>

The closing date is **6th March 2024** at 11.59pm.

Jane Maggs

CURATE ENFIELD - LATEST UPDATE

Curate Enfield is a grassroots public art programme, led by Enfield Council and supported by Arts Council England. Over the past 12 months, Enfield Council has partnered with local 'public art champions' to create public art commissions for the main town centres of Angel Edmonton, Edmonton Green, Enfield Town, Palmers Green and Southgate.

Angel Edmonton

Artist Rafael Klein has been selected to create a sculptural work outside Joyce & Snells Estate along Fore Street. The sculpture is informed by the town centre's traditional name of 'The Angel,' and participants from St James & St John's School and the wider community have taken part in workshops to develop the sculpture's design. The sculpture is due to be installed and launched at the end of February 2024. There will be further details in future Newsletters.

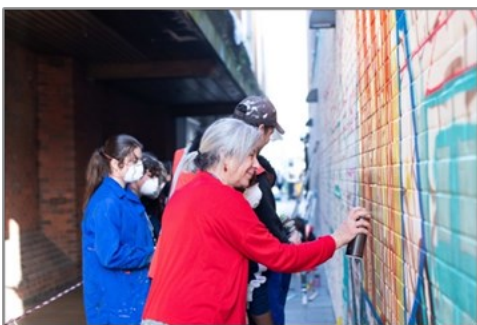
Enfield Town

Artist Anna Nicolo has created A Stroll Through Enfield Town, a colourful and vibrant mural for the alleyway between the Diechmann and Marks & Spencer stores in Palace Gardens Shopping Centre in Enfield Town. The mural is inspired by Enfield's heritage as a market town, its historical landmarks, industry and innovations as well as the contemporary energy of the shopping centre.



The mural was painted with the help of pupils from Enfield County School and a group of young people participating in reparation projects through Enfield's Youth Justice system.

Palmers Green



The Matchbox Collective were selected to create a series of vibrant, eye-catching murals inspired by the cultural diversity, local nature and biodiversity of Palmers Green located on various walls in the Green Lanes area. The Matchbox Collective designed the murals in collaboration with community groups including the NHS Wellbeing Group at Broomfield Park Community Orchard, Philanthropy CIC, Ruth Winston Community Centre and Year 10 students from Laurel Park School.

(continued over)

The murals have become part of an arts trail connecting different parts of the town centre and celebrating the unique identity of Palmers Green. The art trail can be found on the Enfield website go to <https://letstalk.enfield.gov.uk/palmersgreen> and follow the links.



Jane Maggs

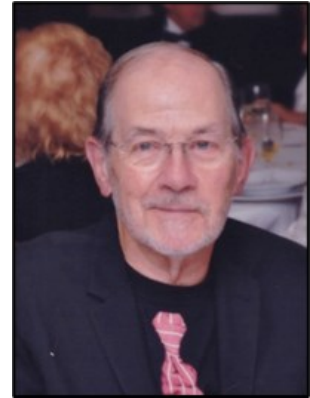
Images:
Students painting Enfield Town Mural - Katrina Campbell
Matchbox Murals (Palmers Green) – Matchbox Collective
Images of Enfield Town Mural – Anna Nicolo

Graham Beech Memorial Award

A number of years ago an annual award was created in Graham Beech's name, as a way to remember him and his commitment to *Southgate District Civic Trust*, as we were then known.

As in previous years, SDCV intend to present this award to a member who has made an outstanding contribution to this society or to the wider community. Over the years the award has been presented to really committed and deserving recipients and remains a fitting legacy to Graham.

Any member of SDCV can make a nomination for the award, however, please note, nominees *cannot* be members of the Executive Committee.



Nominations should be sent to me by 31st March, either by post: Jane Maggs, 108 Chelmsford Road, Southgate, London N14 4JL or by e-mail: info@southgatedistrictcivicvoice.org.

The current Chair and members of the Committee will judge the nominations and the award will be presented at the 2024 SDCV AGM.

If you have any questions about this please contact a member of the Executive Committee.

Nomination Form Graham Beech Award

Your name:	
Contact details: (E-mail or tel number)	
Date:	
Name of nominee:	
Reason for nomination: (Use extra pages if needed)	