

Southgate District Civic Voice

Newsletter No. 268
July 2024

We cover Southgate, Winchmore Hill,
Palmers Green, New Southgate, Cockfosters
and Hadley Wood

(Registered as an amenity society with Civic Voice).



AUTUMN OPEN MEETING

Saturday 26th October 2024 at 2.30pm
at Walker Lower Hall, Christ Church Parish Centre
7 The Green, Southgate, N14 7EG

ILLUMINATING ART - FROM LAMPSHADES TO LANDMARKS - A DESIGNER'S JOURNEY

Dan Maier, SDCV member and the designer behind the Southgate Art Crossing and artwork at Southgate station, will give an illustrated talk exploring her remarkable journey through the world of design and public art.

(See page 14 for more details)



Dan at Southgate Art Crossing -
photographer Chris Wood

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Contributions to the October newsletter should be sent by Friday 20th September
to the Editor: Colin Barratt, 48 Maplin Close, Winchmore Hill, London, N21 1NB
Tel: 0208 360 3979. e-mail: newsletter@southgatedistrictcivicvoice.org

Note:- Copies will be emailed, hand delivered or posted during week commencing **Monday 7th October.**

www.southgatedistrictcivicvoice.org **Twitter: @southgatevoice**
Facebook: www.facebook.com/southgatevoice
Contact us: info@southgatedistrictcivicvoice.org

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 18th May 2024

The AGM was held at the Walker Hall on Saturday 18th May. It was good to see so many people getting together to talk about issues impacting our area of interest. There were lively and interesting discussions on various topics.

Thanks go to Elaine for organising the refreshments after the AGM.



Elections to the Executive Committee 2024-2025

The following members were elected as officers and members of the Executive Committee:

President	<i>remains vacant</i>
Vice-Presidents	<i>remains vacant</i>
Chair, Executive Committee	Graham Davis
Vice Chair	Jane Maggs*
Secretary	<i>remains vacant</i>
Treasurer	Roz Jones
Membership Secretary	John West
Newsletter Editor	Colin Barratt
Publicity Officer	<i>remains vacant</i>

Committee Members (up to 6 members)

Jane Maggs
Richard Purver
Elaine Tyler

We did not receive any nominations for the posts of President, Vice President, Secretary and Publicity Officer so regrettably these posts remained unfilled.

The Executive Committee would be pleased and relieved if a member would volunteer to take on any of these roles, particularly **Secretary**. The other members of the committee have taken on some of the duties, but it is difficult to cover everything. If you can help, please contact the committee at info@southgatedistrictcivicvoice.org

*Jane Maggs was elected as Vice Chair at the subsequent Executive Committee meeting. The Vice Chair is not voted for at the AGM.

Presentation of the Graham Beech Award



After the formal business of the AGM, Graham Davis presented the **Graham Beech Memorial Award** for outstanding service to SDCV and the local community to **Joe Studman**. Graham explained why the committee had decided to award this to Joe. In particular, he highlighted that so many know Joe, which is indicative of his impact in our area.

Joe asked for his right of reply and gave a fascinating, insightful and amusing speech.

Minchenden School War Memorial

Richard Purver introduced the **Minchenden School War Memorial book**, researched and written by **Eileen Bostle**. Richard explained the history of this project and why it had been published now. (See page 12 for more details).



Copies were available to purchase at the AGM and are now stocked in our online shop <https://southgatedistrictcivicvoice.org/Shop/> priced at £7.

Jane Maggs

Photos: Mervyn Maggs

TALK FOLLOWING OUR AGM

DOLLY SHEPHERD “THE EDWARDIAN LADY PARACHUTIST” by Kirsten Forrest

Elizabeth Shepherd was born in Potters Bar in 1886. When she was a baby her grandmother said that she looked like a little dolly, and she was given the nickname Dolly from then on. Kirsten was able to draw on the memoirs of Dolly, called “When the Chute Went Up”. She described her as a “fearless, fabulous, feminist icon”. As a child Dolly moved to Southgate with her family and went to school in Wood Green. Her father was in the police force. She described herself as a tomboy. Her parents used to say



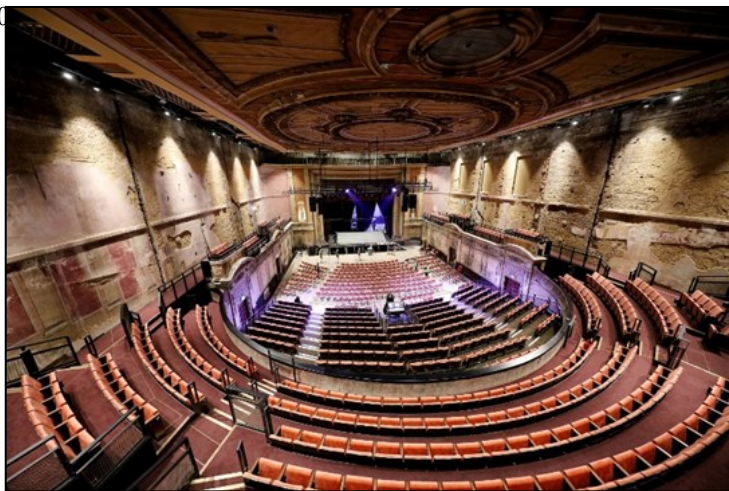
“there is no such word as can’t”. Dolly was able to ride a horse, owned by the family and kept on Southgate Common. She was tall and well dressed and started work at her aunt’s ostrich feather business in London.

The family often visited nearby Alexandra Park and Palace and balloon displays were popular there. They had been going since 1888, but were dangerous. From a young age Dolly was a keen performer and her first role was as Captain Jolly Roger in Robinson Crusoe at the Alexandra Palace Theatre in 1902. She was also keen on popular music, particularly John Philip Sousa, the famous composer and conductor, who performed at Alexandra Palace around 1900. She managed to get a job as a waitress, so she could meet him, which she did, plus his colleagues Cody and Gaudron, who had an aerial workshop for their balloon displays at Blandford Hall, on the hill near the Palace. She was offered a tour of the workshop and at 18 began her parachuting career with them.

Her training consisted of just half an hour, learning how to fall without getting injured. She liked to grab attention by dressing scandalously in a sailor suit, with knickerbockers, and carrying a Union Jack flag. She became a national celebrity, but had a number of accidents. The most serious of these was an occasion in 1908 when she was parachuting with another girl, whose mechanism to release her from the balloon failed. Dolly undid her harness and held her as they came down under Dolly’s parachute, but landed heavily and Dolly was badly injured. It was thought that she would be permanently disabled, but after a period of rest and treatment she recovered and carried on her career. Her final jump was in 1912. During this she had a feeling that she shouldn’t carry on with her parachuting, so at the age of 26 she gave it up. During World War 1 Dolly served as a driver and engineer for the Women’s Voluntary Reserve. Even in WW2 she became a voluntary marshall for air raid shelters.

At the age of 83 Dolly appeared on BBC's Blue Peter programme and she died just before her 97th birthday in 1983. Kirsten finished her talk about Dolly Shepherd by playing an audio recording of an interview with Dolly, who spoke about her life and career.

The second part of Kirsten's talk was about the Alexandra Palace Theatre. She came to work at the Palace in 2015 and has been involved with the theatre since then.



Kirsten showed many slides of the theatre to explain its history. The original theatre burnt down within weeks of being opened in the 1870s. It was refurbished in 1920 and had good acoustics for music, but not for speech.

It became disused in the 1930s and was used to store BBC props. By 2015 the theatre had deteriorated and was in a bad condition. It's been restored and is now back in use as an

adaptable space, with a varied programme of events. Visitors will notice that parts of the theatre have been left untouched. It could have been completely repainted and restored, but it was decided to leave some of the deterioration visible, to show its history.

Colin Barratt

P.S. Following Kirsten's talk, I carried out some research into Dolly Shepherd. The censuses showed that by the time Dolly was 4 her family had moved from Potters Bar to South Road, New Southgate and at 14 they were living in Station Road, New Southgate, backing onto the gas works and railway yards. At 24, in the 1911 census she was working for her aunt, the ostrich feather manufacturer, in Holborn, (as well as performing her parachuting stunts).

SDCV LATE SPRING OPEN MEETING

Saturday 20th April

A talk by Matt Burn on ‘New Homes in Enfield: Addressing the Borough’s Housing Needs’

This well attended talk by **Matt Burn**, representing *Better Homes Enfield* was extremely timely as it coincided with Enfield moving into the next stage of its emerging Local Plan, where housing is a key topic.

This informative session explored a range of critical housing development issues within our community. It is not possible to report the full detail of everything covered in this talk, so I have just picked out a few key areas.

Matt talked about the emerging Local Plan and the complication of balancing the different needs to ensure sustainable development which will be relevant for the future.



He spent time explaining the issues around housing in our borough, particularly the high level of homelessness. It is clear that temporary accommodation can have a major impact on a family, particularly where they lose choice.



Matt highlighted the award-winning council development at Goldsmith Street in Norwich, which won the Stirling Prize. However, sadly after three years the council was forced to sell the homes through Right to Buy. This means that local authorities are often reluctant to invest in proper social housing, because they will inevitably lose those homes. From their perspective it is no longer financially viable. What Matt also pointed out is that in Scotland, Right

to Buy was stopped, so homelessness was reduced as councils are prepared to invest in housing.

The talk went on to discuss the different kinds of housing types available. He agreed that flats are not appropriate to families, as there is evidence from other places that this can work. However, he agreed that high rise tower blocks did not work for communities, and there could be more use of mid-rise buildings.



Matt went on to explain how Enfield’s local plan must conform to the NPPF (National Planning Policy Framework) and the London Plan. His concern was that it did not do this which would become a problem for the council when the plan is examined by the inspector.

He also felt that there are sufficient brownfield sites available to meet the housing need, before needing to build on Green Belt land. He explained his logic and that in his view the figures in the draft Local Plan did not add up correctly, so potential homes had been underreported. This will be included in the Better Homes for Enfield submission on the Local Plan.



After the main talk, Matt answered numerous questions and there was a lively debate about the Local Plan, what happens next, land prices, viability and the plans for Meridian Water.

The afternoon was extremely interesting and gave us all a much better understanding of the housing issues faced by Enfield Council and it's residents.

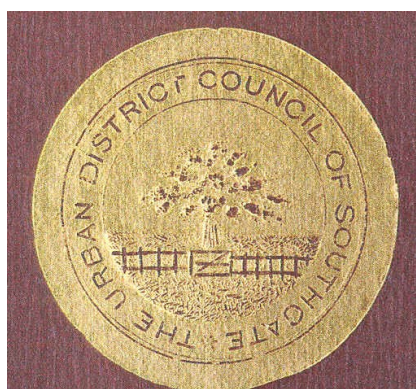
If you would like more information on *Better Homes Enfield*, a community organisation campaigning for sustainable, quality housing solutions for our community see their website: www.betterhomes-enfield.org.

Jane Maggs

Photos: Mervyn Maggs

THE SOUTHGATE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL EMBLEM

In my article *Borough of Southgate Coat of Arms* in Newsletter 238, October 2016 I surveyed surviving examples of the coat of arms which was devised for the borough when it was instituted in September 1933. In it I described the emblem of the predecessor authority, Southgate Urban District Council (formed in 1894), which was the Minchenden Oak behind a low fence with a gate at its centre. This image, reproduced courtesy of Enfield Local Studies and Archive, shows the emblem as it appears on the cover of the Urban District Council of Southgate minutes book for April to October 1933.



Incidentally following the 2016 article another iteration of the Southgate Borough coat of arms was restored to public view as it was included on the tablet commemorating council employees who gave their

lives in the Second World War which with the memorial for WWI was unveiled in its new location in January 2019 in Palmers Green Library, through the collaboration of the Museum of Enfield and Southgate District Civic Trust (see Newsletter 248, April 2019).



Richard Purver

ENFIELD'S LOCAL PLAN – UPDATE

Consultation on Enfield's draft Local Plan ended on 20th May. Known as Regulation 19, this is the formal stage of the consultation process as all the submissions that were made from March to May 2024 will be passed to a government appointed Planning Inspector who will review the Plan, consider all the submissions and determine whether the Plan is compliant with the Planning Acts and the London Plan.

SDCV submitted detailed comments setting out our objections to Green Belt development on the grounds that there are sufficient brownfield sites to meet Enfield's housing needs. Building on the edge of the urban area where public transport is more limited encourages car-led developments. This is not in accordance with the London Plan to develop sustainable development with 80% of journeys being made by public transport, walking, or cycling. We noted that both the Mayor and TfL objected to the Green Belt development at Regulation 18. We understand that similar objections have been submitted under Regulation 19. We also expressed concern about the development of tall buildings in or on the edge of Conservation Areas including at Southgate Circus, in Palmers Green near the Lakes Estate and in Cockfosters near Trent Park. While we did not get actively involved analysing the Borough's proposed housing need figures, we note that Enfield's figures are well in excess of those in the London Plan. This matter is being reviewed by Better Homes Enfield and some members will have heard Matt Burn from that organisation talk about the Borough's housing needs at our Open meeting on 20 April. In our submission we asked to be represented at the Public Examination of the Plan. That Examination is expected to take place in late 2024 or early 2025.

While the change of government is likely to lead to a review of planning policy and possibly also legislation, until any changes are agreed by Parliament, Planning Inspectors must work within the existing legislative and policy framework.

We understand from Council Officers that over 6,000 submissions were received under Regulation 19. This is an exceptionally high number for the formal stage of the consultation process and clearly reflects local concern. Our thanks to everyone who submitted comments.

The Council will now review all the submissions, log them under the particular policy that they relate to and produce an index with cross references to the Plan. The Planning Inspector requires the documentation to be submitted in an agreed format. When that work is complete dates will be set for the Examination. Local Plan Examinations in Public are different to Planning Inquiries. Inquiries relate to a particular building proposal; Examinations are dealing with a large number of planning policies. This is why an Examination in Public can take many weeks or even months while the different policies are considered. We are keeping in contact with other groups who share our concerns to ensure that we all speak with one voice once a Planning Inspector is appointed.

John West



CIVIC VOICE UPDATE

Civic Voice Regional Conference Wakefield 12-13 May 2024

This year's Civic Voice Spring Convention was held in Wakefield, with Civic Voice partnering with Wakefield Civic Society and YHACS (the Yorkshire and Humber Association of Civic Societies) to organise this unique event in Wakefield, long known as 'the Merrie City'.



The convention brought together members of different societies from across the country to discuss amongst other things the theme of 'regeneration' - how do we regenerate our cities and towns in these challenging times?

Wakefield has a fascinating history and examples of built heritage that span from medieval times to the present day, there is much to see across the city centre. **Kevin Trickett MBE**, the President of Wakefield Civic Society and Honorary President of YHACS led a walk on the Friday afternoon. This showed us more of the Westgate High Street Heritage Action Zone, a 4-year £4m + project funded by Wakefield Council and Historic England together with local business owners to refurbish some of the significant heritage properties along this key route into the city centre. Having been to Wakefield some years ago, the last time it hosted Civic Voice, I was positively inspired to see the transformation of the streets.

Across the Wakefield district, both heritage and culture are being used to transform local places, to bring new life, new interest - and new money - into the area - and local civic societies are playing their part in working with the local council, developers, businesses and others to bring about change. What I found inspiring was that the local council actively worked with community and businesses. It just shows what can be done with a vision and real engagement.





The afternoon walk was followed by a convention dinner at Café Create, Wakefield. Well attended by delegates, giving an informal opportunity to talk, over an excellent dinner.

On Saturday, we moved venue to CAPA College, an Arts training and education college for students aged 16-19. Some of the students performed during the day and we were blown away by their talent and enthusiasm.



There was an impressive line-up of speakers. Kevin did admit that he invited them all, expecting only half to be able to join us, but everyone wanted to be involved. This gave us a packed but varied programme from local and regional perspectives to give insight into how civic societies across the country can use their knowledge, expertise and influence to help shape their own towns and cities.



The speakers included:

- Simon Lightwood, MP for Wakefield
- Martin Hamilton, Chair of Civic Voice
- Clare Elliott, Service Director, Economic Growth and Skills, Wakefield Council
- Richard Butterfield, Partnerships Team Leader, North East & Yorkshire Region, Historic England
- Jonathan Maud, Chairman and Managing Director, Rushbond plc
- Paul Gwilliam, Westgate Heritage Action Zone project manager, Wakefield Council
- Paul Cartwright, Chair, Pontefract Civic Society and YHACS Committee member
- Clare Nicholson, Principal, CAPA College
- Julie Russell, Service Director, Arts, Culture and Leisure, Wakefield Council
- Louise Clare, Senior Engagement Manager, National Lottery Heritage Fund



Tony Wade, Co-Director, Edgelands Arts
Margaret Hicks-Clarke, Chair YHACS and Chair of Goole Civic Society
Kevin Trickett MBE, President, Wakefield Civic Society and Honorary President, YHACS
Finally, a discussion led by Martin Hamilton.



This was a good convention with lots of interesting speakers, delegates and venues. Giving a challenge to future convention hosts!

However, as Kevin said, ‘There’s a saying: when we travel, not only do we learn about others, we also learn about ourselves.’ This seems most appropriate and a good reason to go to these meetings and conventions! I’m looking forward to the next meeting.

Jane Maggs

Photo credits:

- Guided walk: Terry Blackwood and used with permission of Wakefield Civic Society
- Dinner: Photos used by permission of Wakefield Civic Society
- Convention: Photos by KRA:FT Media Services and used with permission of Wakefield Civic Society

PALMERS GREEN FESTIVAL

Sunday 1st September 2024 12pm to 5pm

FRIENDS OF BROOMFIELD PARK
PALMERS GREEN FESTIVAL
CELEBRATING OUR COMMUNITY
SUNDAY
1st SEPT OPEN FROM 12.00-5.00 PM
WWW.FOB.EVENTS
BIDDALL'S FUN FAIR
COOKING CHAMPIONS
FOOD & DRINK STALLS
VINTAGE VILLAGE DONKEY RIDES
ART EXHIBITION LIVE MUSIC
FUN DOG SHOW DANCE ZONE
FREE ENTRANCE
supported by
Winkworth

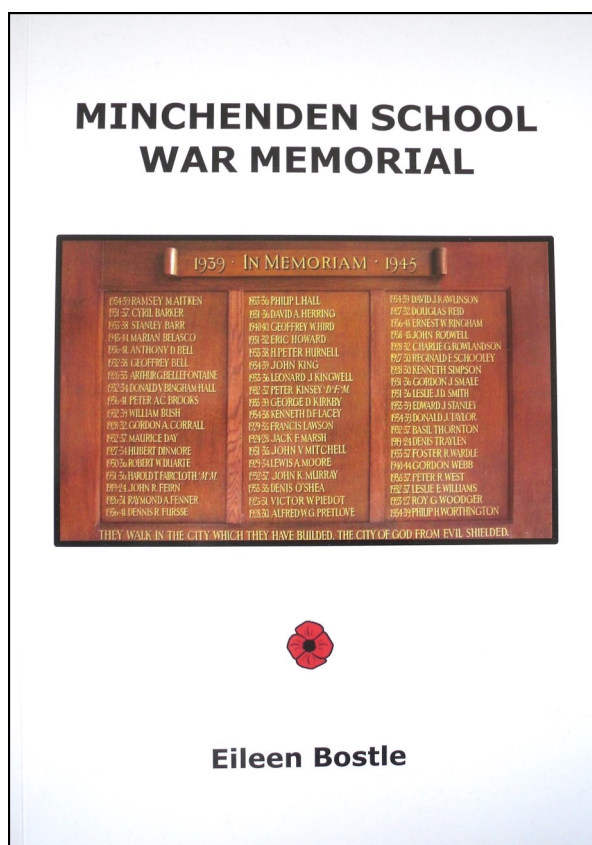
The Palmers Green Festival will be held again this year, as usual, in Broomfield Park. Enjoy the funfair, food festival, Vintage Village and more at this free event for all the family. The Palmers Green Festival is an annual event and has been a popular one in the local calendar since its inception in 2008. Last year it had 60 stalls and over 6000 visitors. It will be expanded this year and they hope to get up to 100 stalls! The festival is a free to enter event, developed and run entirely by experienced local organisations, including Friends of Broomfield Park. There will also be Biddall's Fun Fair, who will draw in lots of families.

Southgate District Civic Voice have booked a stall at the festival, so if you think you could help us on our stall, and tell visitors what SDCV does for our community, get in touch by email (info@southgatedistrictcivicvoice.org). We will need to have at least two people on the stall at all times, plus help to set it up and take it down, so we would like to prepare a rota of helpers, preferably in 2 hour blocks.

MINCHENDEN SCHOOL WAR MEMORIAL

In Newsletter 249, July 2019 we reported on our establishing the location of the Minchenden School war memorial board which was being looked after in storage while work was being carried out to convert the building for use by Durants School and its consequent transfer to the Museum of Enfield collection.

The board was made of oak from a tree in the grounds by pupils at the school under the supervision of their woodwork teacher and originally unveiled in November 1947. After refurbishment by local craftsman Ralph Hutchings and display in the 2019-20 exhibition *Enfield at War 1939-45* at the Dugdale Centre the plan was for the memorial to be relocated to Southgate Library, opposite the original site and where it could be seen by members of the public.



Unfortunately the closure of the library and use of the premises as a testing centre during the coronavirus pandemic in 2020-21 and subsequent budgetary constraints have so far prevented the installation of the memorial, although it will be included in the museum's current project to create digital images of their collection for display online.

Given the situation we decided to proceed with the publication originally planned to coincide with the installation, *Minchenden School War Memorial* by Eileen Bostle (who was a pupil at the school) and launched it at the AGM on 18 May. The 52-page illustrated book is based on Eileen's research into the background of the 53 former pupils named on the memorial who died in service in the Second World War and two pupils still at the school who were killed in V2 attacks. There are biographies of all 55 people giving information about their local connections, school careers and wartime service and photographs of several of them. The design of the book is by Elaine Tyler and

it was printed by Brunswick Press, price £7 from our online shop or £5 at our stall at meetings and events.

Eileen previously researched the booklet *Southgate Town Hall War Memorials in Palmers Green Library* (2019, second edition 2022) which was published in connection with our earlier project with the Museum of Enfield and contributed the article *Bowes Road Air Raid Shelter* to Newsletter 234, October 2015. She also wrote *Enfield's Night to Remember: The Airship Raid of 2nd/3rd September 1916* (Enfield Museum Service, 2014) and the chapter *Palmers Green Library to 1965* in *An Early History of Palmers Green Library* (Enfield Local Studies Library & Archive, 2015), issued in conjunction with the reopening of the library after refurbishment in September that year. As with the Minchenden book this publication had a personal aspect as it was here that Eileen started out on her own library career.

Richard Purver

MAZE INN – POSSIBLE REDEVELOPMENT

The owners of this site held an exhibition at The Southgate Club on their plans for the site of the illegally demolished Maze Inn.

According to the developers of 7 Chase Side, this will be a 'small but interesting mixed-use scheme comprising 11 residential apartments of different size and tenure and commercial opportunities at ground, lower ground and partially first floor level'.

This site has stood boarded up and neglected for many years, a real eyesore in our town centre, to the frustration of everyone. The last building on this site was the Maze Inn, previously The Rising Sun public house, which was rebuilt in 1932. It closed in 2016 and was sold to Fio's Property Portfolio Ltd in 2016 and illegally demolished in 2019.



The council took enforcement action and prosecuted for the unlawful demolition but were not planning to insist that they rebuild the façade as was. According to the *Enfield Dispatch* in September 2019, a council spokesperson said: "They will also need a new planning application for redevelopment now and through this, they will need to demonstrate a quality approach to the replacement design."

It is worth remembering as we consider this development, that it is located in the **Southgate Circus Conservation Area** and is very close to the iconic **Grade II* listed Southgate Station**.



This sets a high bar on the standard of development we expect to see. There is a responsibility and an opportunity to replace the boarded-up wasteland with new architecturally interesting buildings to enhance our town centre.

There are several interesting features to the proposal, but overall, it is disappointing that this development will not produce a positive addition to Chase Side. We are particularly concerned that the new building will come further forward than the demolished pub, right up to the edge of the site. This will make the street feel crowded and allows no opportunity for open space or softening planting, something often called for by residents. The proposed building will dominate Chase Side as well as Southgate Circus, it will impact views of the station, as it looms over Station Parade.



This redevelopment is an amazing opportunity for transitional change to Southgate. SDCV would still like to work with the Maze site team to create something truly worthy and groundbreaking for Southgate.

There has not been a formal planning application yet, so we wait to see what happens next.

Jane Maggs

Images from display at exhibition

AUTUMN OPEN MEETING

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ILLUMINATING ART - FROM LAMPSHADES TO LANDMARKS - A DESIGNER'S JOURNEY

Dan Maier, SDCV member and the designer behind the Southgate Art Crossing and artwork at Southgate station, will give an illustrated talk exploring her remarkable journey through the world of design and public art.

For over two decades, Dan's work has sold internationally, working from her studio in Southgate. Her creative vision manifests in bespoke pieces for public and private buildings, from cruise liners and theatres to window displays for national retailers. Her artwork has illuminated tube stations such as Southgate, Hatton Cross, and Hounslow West, as well as appearing in The Midland Grand Hotel at St Pancras, The Old Vic, National Theatre and the O2. Her designs have also



Dan at The Southgate Club - photographer Nat Gee

graced the shelves of Harvey Nichols, Liberty, and John Lewis and there's a chance you may even have one of her iconic Knitted Chandeliers in your own home!

This talk reveals how a light bulb moment accidentally sparked a decade designing lighting followed by a daring leap into the world of large-scale public art.

PLANNING FUTURES SUMMER PARLIAMENTARY RECEPTION

House of Lords on 7th May 2024

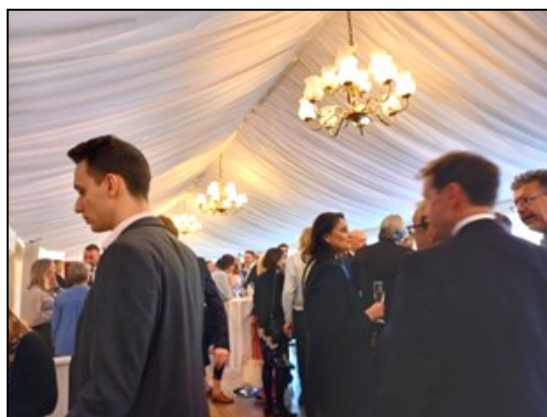


I was delighted that as a Civic Voice Trustee, I was able to represent Civic Voice at the *Planning Futures Summer Parliamentary Reception* sponsored by *hgh Consulting, Cavendish Consulting* and the *Vistry Group*, held at the House of Lords on 7th May 2024.

The event brought together a mixture of attendees representing developers, community communication specialists, local authority planners and a few politicians. Civic Voice appeared to be a lone voice for civic societies.

It was an opportunity to discuss challenges with the planning system from different perspectives, as well as a range of views on community engagement.

One attendee said that their first call when planning a community engagement is with the local civic society. They recognise that these societies know the area, understand the issues and generally wish to engage. What came across clearly is that good communication between all the groups is key to a successful outcome. Sadly, not all developers seem to have this insight, but at least this group were able to understand the role and perspectives of local communities.



Interestingly, when other attendees realised where I came from, I was asked about Meridian Water, along with Enfield's plans for the Green Belt in the proposed Local Plan. Clearly these are topics discussed further afield than just here in Enfield!

Jane Maggs
Civic Voice Trustee

SOUTHGATE STATION CLOCK

The clock went out of use in the last few years due to damage and water ingress and various parts required repair, renovation etc. Due to the clock workings being obsolete it was decided to remove the clock and take it up to Cumbria Clocks, actually based up in Cumbria, to their renovation centre and renew all the internal components with a new timing device, installed along with a full refurbishment of all the exterior parts, hands, clock face and public facing sections.

We looked through many archive photos to replicate the exact design for the renovation.

The work in summary is outlined below;

The scope of works was:

- To attend onsite, remove the clock movement and hands. Remove all hour markers.
- In workshop manufacture new stepper movement and control system
- Alter existing hands to suit new drive unit.
- Manufacture two new hour markers.
- Prepare all hour markers and paint to gloss yellow before gilding with 23 3/4 extra thick gold leaf.
- Re-finish hands in gloss paint.
- Return to site and install movement and control system.
- Fit hands.
- Fit hour markers in position using stainless steel fixings.
- Test and leave in full working order.

We also were able to secure funding for some of the cost from the London Heritage Trust.

Gareth Leslie
Tfl



SDCV 60th ANNIVERSARY OAK TREE

As reported in the April newsletter, a new oak tree had been planted for us by Enfield Council, to replace the one planted to commemorate our 60th anniversary in 2022. The first tree died because of a lack of water. The tree planting contractor should be watering the new tree regularly, but we have also been giving it water, This will continue during the summer. As our photo shows, the tree is flourishing, with plenty of new leaves. The commemorative plaque will be refitted onto its concrete mount in a few weeks time, probably in September.