



# Society News

The Bulletin of the Enfield Archaeological Society



Images of Enfield by Geoffrey Gillam (see page 7).

Top: WW2 store, Clay Hill; Broomfield House. Centre: Bellings, Southbury Rd; Ponders End Stn. Bottom: Palace Gardens under demolition, Palace Gardens Shopping Centre. Above: Floor tile from Cheshunt Great House.

## 2 Forthcoming Events: EAS

- 18 September: Bermondsey Abbey
- 16 October: Prehistoric London Archaeology
- 13 November: Waltham Abbey Excavations 2008

## 3 Other Societies

## 4 Society News – Post-Ex Course – Christ Church

## 5 Fieldwork Report: Theobalds Palace: Part 2: Worked Stone

## 7 Meeting Reports

- 19 June: Geoffrey Gillam Memorial Lecture

## 8 Pastfinders News – New Book

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

The Editor is Jeremy Grove

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

# Forthcoming events



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

## Lecture Programme

### 18<sup>th</sup> September

#### The Archaeology of Bermondsey Abbey

(please note change to programme)

Alistair Douglas, Preconstruct Archaeology

In a change to our original programme (PCA's work at Kensington Palace having generated relatively little to talk about!), another of PCA's Senior Supervisors, Alistair Douglas, has volunteered to present the results of his long running excavations on the Scheduled Ancient Monument of Bermondsey Abbey, which has produced some fascinating results.

### 16<sup>th</sup> October

#### Prehistoric London Archaeology

Jon Cotton, MoL

Jon Cotton is senior curator of Prehistory at the Museum of London, and a leading expert on the prehistory of the London region. His talks bring to life the wealth of knowledge that has been built up in recent years, but also demonstrate how much still waits to be discovered.

### 13<sup>th</sup> November

#### Waltham Abbey Excavations 2008

Peter Huggins, Waltham Abbey Historical Society

When Peter last spoke to us in 2007, he promised to return to update us on the results of the excavations he directed last summer (with help from several EAS diggers) in Abbey Mead, on the site of what he believed to be the infirmary chapel of Waltham Abbey.

### December

Christmas break – no lecture

## EAS Fieldwork



### Call for volunteers for work at Jesus Church, Forty Hill.

You may remember our excavations at Jesus Church in Forty Hill last year (see Pastfinders News, Dec 2008), in which we found evidence of prehistoric (late Neolithic/early Bronze age, and possibly Mesolithic) activity, in particular plenty of worked stone tools. Building work has now started at the site, throwing up large spoil heaps, and the Society is maintaining a watching brief on these, and where appropriate sieving the spoil. Already this has generated more finds, and is adding to our understanding of the site.

If you are interested in helping with some sieving sessions, either at weekends or possibly on weekdays in late September or early October please contact Neil Pinchbeck (Tel: 020 8366 5195) or Mike Dewbrey (Tel: 01707 870888) for further details.

LAMAS 44<sup>th</sup> Local History Conference

### OPEN-AIR LONDON: Pleasure, Parks and Protest

Saturday 21 November

City of London School for Girls, Barbican

Tickets £10 (£8 members) available from Local History Conference, 24 Orchard Close, Ruislip, Middx, HA4 7LS, enclosing cheque payable to LAMAS and stamped S.A.E., or via web site:

[www.lamas.org.uk](http://www.lamas.org.uk).

# Meetings of other Societies

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

13 October  
Excavations at St Martin in the fields  
*Alison Telfer*

10 November  
Bricks and Skeletons: St Johns 1632 Brick Church Ruin  
*Dr Frederick Hicks*

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

16 September  
The Co-op Then and Now  
*Ted Graham*

21 October  
How Rural Tottenham Disappeared  
*Ken Barker*

31 October  
Day Conference  
Jubilee Hall, 10.00-4.30 pm

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LONDON & MIDDLESEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
6.00 for 6.30pm, Museum of London

13 October  
River & Environment in the Neolithic & Bronze Ages  
*Jane Sidell, Inspector of Ancient Monuments London*

10 November  
Early Roman Quarrying and Building Stone Use  
in London & South East England  
*Dr Kevin Hayward*

8 December  
Rebels and Infidels at the City's Village Hall:  
the Radical Collections at Bishopsgate Library  
*Stefan Dickers, Bishopsgate Institute*

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION NORTH LONDON BRANCH  
7.45 for 8pm, Jubilee Hall, Enfield, unless otherwise stated

13 October  
Poverty, Old Age and Gender in Victorian Hertfordshire  
*Professor Nigel Goose*

10 November  
Queen Victoria: the First Royal Rebel?  
*Dr Kate Williams*

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WEST ESSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP  
7.45 for 8pm, VI Form Unit, Woodford County High School,  
High Road, Woodford Green

14 September  
Education in Londinium  
*Mark Hassall*

12 October  
Tudor Playhouses in London  
*Julian Bowsher*

9 November  
Snettisham Gold Torques  
*A. Meeks*

14 December  
London Bodies  
*Rebecca Redfern*

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WALTHAM ABBEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
8pm, Parish Centre, Abbey Gardens, Waltham Abbey  
*(please note new venue)*

17 September  
The Luttrell Psalter  
*Anne Padfield*

15 October  
The Archaeology of World War 1  
*Dr David Kenyon*

19 November  
T.E. Lawrence – Man, Myth or Legend  
*Maggie Radcliffe*

17 December  
Members Evening

# SOCIETY MATTERS

## Committee Secretary Required

After 5 years' excellent work as both Secretary and Membership Secretary for the Society, David Wills will not be standing for re-election at the next AGM in April 2010.

We would therefore be delighted to hear from any members who may be willing to help out by taking on either or both roles.

Potential volunteers should contact Mike Dewbrey (01707 870888, daytime) or David Wills (020 8364 5698)

*The Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank Dave for all his hard work on our behalf, not least his creation of our excellent web site, which we are very pleased he will be continuing to maintain.*



## Looking at Finds:

### A Practical Course in Post- Excavation Studies

A course organised by Hendon & District Archaeological Society and run by Jacqui Pearce BA FSA MIfA. Wednesday evenings from 18.30 for two hours at Avenue House, 17 East End Road, Finchley, N3 3QE. 22 sessions over 2 terms from 30 Sept 2009 to 24 March 2010, cost £275.

This course aims to give an introduction to current procedures for identifying, recording, analyzing, understanding and interpreting archaeological

finds through specialist tuition. There will be a strong emphasis on gaining practical, hands-on experience in a series of group workshops. Common finds will include pottery, building materials, glass, clay pipes and small finds, and students will be encouraged to develop their own area of interest. The finds studied will be drawn from unpublished archive excavations in London. Members of local archaeological societies are encouraged to bring finds from excavations in their area for study.

For further details see HADAS web site <http://www.hadas.org.uk/> or call 020 8203 2506 (evenings only).

*(This is an excellent course, ideally suited to the needs of local society members. Several EAS members have attended its predecessors, generally returning for several years - Ed.)*

## Open House London Weekend 19 September

**Christ Church United Reformed Church**, Chase Side, Enfield, EN2 6NB will be open to the public from 10am to 4pm on Saturday 19 September to coincide with the Open House London weekend. There will be a display illustrating the architecture, history and activities of the church, which will be decorated for the Harvest Festival the next day.

This Grade II Listed Victorian Gothic church was opened in 1875 on the site of Zion Chapel (built in 1780), whose members had agreed to unite with those of the adjoining Chase Side Chapel (built 1830).

Christ Church is faced with Kentish ragstone on the outside and Bath stone on the inside. The reredos on the apse wall is a stone relief copy of Leonardo da Vinci's painting of the Last Supper. Late 19<sup>th</sup> century memorial stained glass windows represent Christ the Saviour and the Good Shepherd, the four gospel writers, Peter and Paul, three 1<sup>st</sup> century Christian deacons and three Christian virtues. For more information tel 020 8363 0031 or 020 8363 4571 or visit [www.christchurchenfield.org.uk](http://www.christchurchenfield.org.uk).

Stephen Gilbert

Excavations at the edge of the Great Garden Of Theobalds Palace, Cedars Park, Cheshunt, July 2008

Part 2: The Worked Stone (Masonry)  
(Site Code THE08)

By Ian K. Jones  
with illustrations by Neil Pinchbeck

### Introduction

A variety of worked stone was recovered during the work at Theobalds (see Bulletin ???) and the opportunity was also taken to record and study a carved block (M1) now laying on the ground elsewhere in Cedars Park adjacent to a line of conifers but of unknown origin. Most of the rest of the material was in the modern filling of the canal but M12 came from the dumps in Trench 2. Illustrated items are marked \*

### Catalogue

#### A) Probable Palace Material

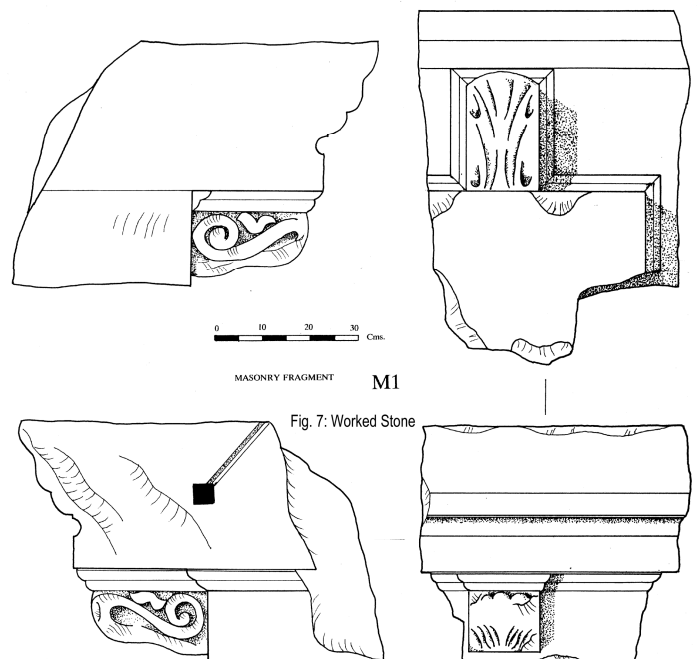
\*M7 Block of oolitic limestone, width 37 cm, height above damaged base 44 cm, depth along longest side 22 cm. Around the three outer faces runs a battered roll moulding with a chamfered inset above. In the angle of the rear face are traces of red brick and yellow mortar. This was originally the projecting base of one side, the left when viewed from in front, of an arch, doorway or fireplace. The rough finish suggests an exterior feature (cf Summerson 1959, *passim* discussing a drawing of 'The inwd. syde of the gatehouse' in the Hatfield papers and a doorway of this type in a drawing of a house possibly related to Theobalds in the Soane Museum) and examples of this use of masonry to protect the softer brickwork from damage can be seen at Hampton Court and St. James Palaces.

M12 Three pieces of good quality oolitic limestone between 3.2 and 3.7 cm thick. Along one edge of two of the pieces runs a simple roll moulding cut into the finished slab. The quality and condition of the stone suggests that these come from inside the house, though from what feature it is impossible to say.

#### B) Seventeenth to Eighteenth Century

\*M1 Badly damaged block of Portland Limestone with the back, both ends and a corner missing. It

represents the upper half of the cornice section of an entablature in the Italian Mannerist style originally of the second half of the sixteenth century. The surviving undamaged face is 57 cm long and the height of the block is 50 cm. The entablature is in the Corinthian style with the cornice consisting of a single projecting block or dentil in the form of a scroll with above a double curved cyma reversa moulding with convex curves above concave (cf Palladio 1738, Pl. 24). In one broken face a square mortise hole has been cut with a narrow channel running from its top right hand corner to the top right hand corner of the broken block. This was presumably an attempt to re-join the broken pieces employing an iron tennon to connect with a similar hole in the missing piece and using lead to seal the joint. Two crude channels have also been cut across the face, one assumes as part of the attempted repair. If correctly proportioned, it could have come from a colonnade or arcade around 50 feet high (cf. Palladio 1738, Pls 21 – 22).

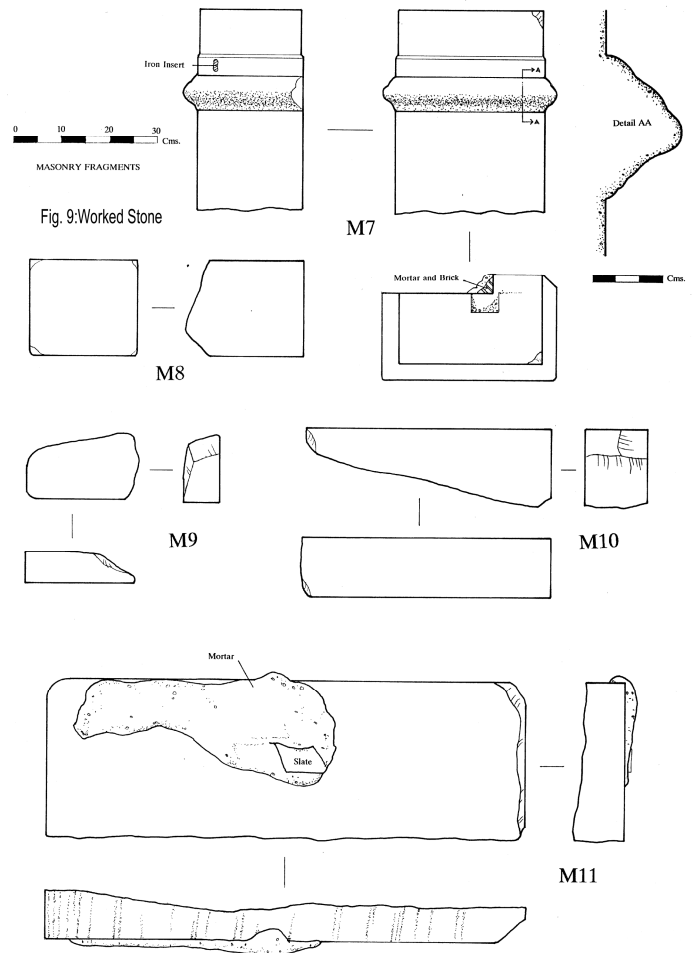
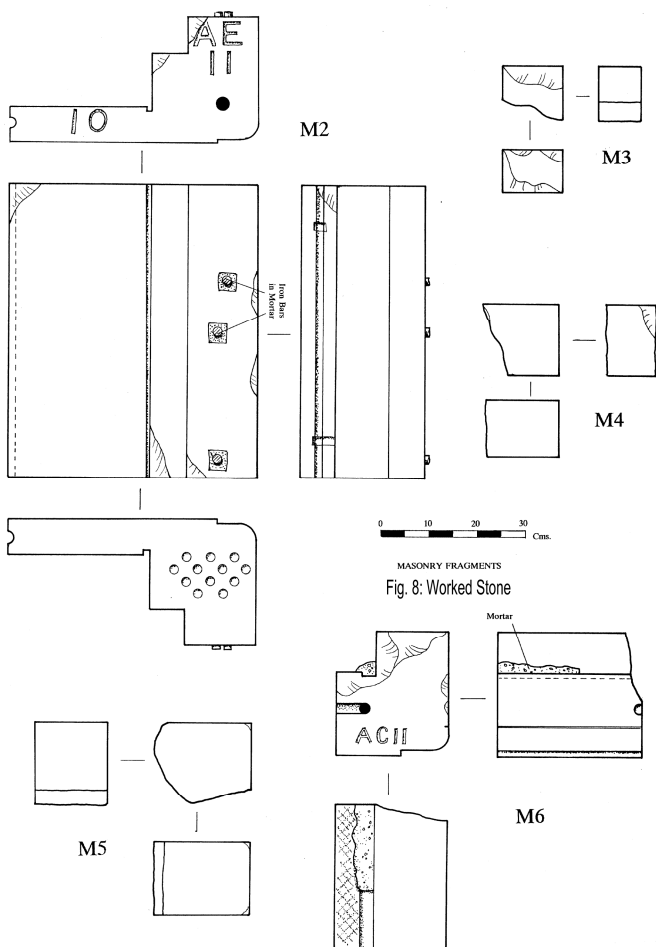


This style of pure Italian classical architecture first appears in Britain in the early seventeenth century with the work of Inigo Jones who brought the ideas and many of the drawings of the architect Andrea Palladio here. He became Surveyor of the King's Works in 1615 and in his Banqueting House in Whitehall and Chapel Royal at St. James Palace used entablatures not unlike this specimen (Summerson 1966, 53f). Jones did carry out two minor projects at Theobalds; a stable in 1623 and a small Banqueting House in 1625. However, neither would have been on the scale necessary to include a piece like the one under discussion (*op cit*, 40f). Though others copied his ideas, it seems more likely that this

piece dates from the time of the Palladian Revival in the early eighteenth century. Almost identical scroll form dentils were used on the pediment of Morden College, Blackheath, built in 1695 (Fletcher 1987, 822, E), but the Palladian revival began in 1726 with the construction by Lord Burlington and William Kent of the former's villa at Chiswick (Harris 1995, *passim*) and it is from sometime after this event that it is suggested this piece dates.

### C) Nineteenth Century

\*M2, \*M6 Two machine cut and finished blocks in a good quality limestone whose similarities suggest that they formed part of the same prefabricated structure. M2 is an L-shaped piece 60 by 24 cm with the side 26 cm high. On the surface of the side piece are the remains of three iron bars set in mortar which seem similar in diameter to bar(s) encountered in the excavation of the north end of the canal silts. M6 is identical in finish, even to the application of black paint and very similar in form to the thicker end of M2. On one end of M2 is carefully carved "AE II", while M6 is similarly carved with "AC II", done, presumably, to aid assembly. "10" is also carved on the side of the thin section of M2, while at the end a shallow groove may have been intended to help it join to another piece.



It is possible that these two pieces plus the possible iron railings encountered in excavation formed part of the approach to the known bridge across the canal. Equally though, like all the other pieces from the canal, they could have come from elsewhere, and had a different function.

\*M3, \*M4, \*M5, \*M8, \*M9 Five generally well finished blocks of good quality limestone. None with any obvious features indicating use, though their finish and quality suggests that they were meant to be seen and came from building(s) of some pretensions.

\*M10 Triangular corner broken off of a slab of polished off-white marble, 12 cm thick. The high quality of the finish suggests a working surface of the sort that dairies and some food shops would use.

\*M11 Flat slab of lesser quality limestone with an inferior finish to those above, measuring 100 by 37 by a maximum of 11 cm. On one side is a patch of mortar with a broken piece of slate set in it. The slab is long enough to be a front door threshold and was probably originally much thicker, having lost some of its upper surface. Slate was often employed when damp courses began to be used in the nineteenth century.

*Bibliography overleaf >*

## Bibliography

Fletcher, B. (1987) *A History of Architecture* (19th edition, Ed. J. Musgrove), Butterworth.

Harris, J. (1995) *The Palladian Revival*, Royal Academy Exhibition Catalogue.

Palladio, A. (1738) *The Four Books of Architecture* (Dover edition of Ware edition).

Summerson, J. (1959) 'The Building of Theobalds, 1564-1585' *Archaeologia* 97 (2nd s. 47), 107-26.

Summerson, J. (1966) *Inigo Jones*, Penguin.

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# Meeting Reports

## Geoffrey Gillam Memorial Lecture

With Edmonton Hundred Historical Society

19 June: Ian Jones & Graham Dalling

Given Geoffrey Gillam's major contribution to both the archaeology and history of the local area, it was appropriate that the two societies with which he was most associated came together to commemorate his life and achievements in these fields.

Ian talked first about Geoffrey's archaeological career, which began, so far as we know, working on Professor Grimes's excavations in the City in the late 1940s. He had also built up a collection of antiquities, including a Roman lead coffin, which he kept under his bed, to his mother's disquiet! The collection was sold after he contracted TB to help with the treatment costs.

In 1951 he persuaded EHHS to sponsor the first of his many local digs, on the Roman site at Churchfields, and in 1955 he was one of the founder members of the EAS. Many years were spent searching for evidence of the line of Ermine Street through Enfield, and the Society began its first major excavation at Elsyng Palace in 1963. Further evidence of Geoffrey's abiding interest in local major houses include work to record Cheshunt Great House (now demolished) in 1966,

and his last major work, on the history of Forty Hall.

Cheshunt Great House



As colour film became cheaper in the late 1960s he began a major project to record every street and monument in the Borough – producing a huge archive which is now with the Society.



Old shop sign in Baker Street captured by Geoffrey during refurbishment

Geoffrey was often to be found at the forefront of new trends in archaeology – in the 60s he encouraged research into industrial archaeology, leading to the Industrial Archaeology Group's publication on Enfield industries in 1971, and he began recording wartime remains long before the Defence of Britain project got underway. His interest in the World Wars saw him move into the field of local history research, with two books on the subject, and he also donned ARP Warden's uniform to guide tours of surviving air raid shelters.

Graham Dalling also emphasised the importance of Geoffrey's books as a lasting contribution to the local history of Enfield. Many, he considered, will remain important sources for many years to come.

In addition to his own research, he helped others with theirs, especially with fieldwork and photography. The last excavation he directed was of the summerhouses at Forty Hall in 1999.

It was the quality and breadth of the work he undertook or stimulated that saw him become the first recipient of the Ralph Merrifield Award for local archaeology, a fitting end to an impressive career.

# PASTFINDERS NEWS

News of the Excavation and Fieldwork Group



My experience over many years of working on archaeological sites is that the largest trenches do not always produce the most interesting archaeology. Many a good find has come from small trenches and certainly this was so at Forty Hall when two small test pits were opened close to the door by the North Lawn. A disused 17th century brick lined drain had been used as a midden (rubbish pit) and was full of mid-late 17<sup>th</sup> C domestic pottery which had probably originated in the kitchens of Nicholas Rainton's Hall. Finds included fragments of high status fine glass vessels, delftware, stoneware, glazed cooking pots, butchered bone and complete clay pipe bowls some with stems still attached. Without doubt this was the largest concentration of finds we have recovered from such a small area, and our diggers like kiddies in an archaeological sweetshop!

The excavation at Theobalds Palace in July saw the opening of one of our longest trenches to date across the eastern approach road into William Cecil's courtier's palace. Features uncovered included an 18<sup>th</sup> C boundary wall between an orchard and the carriage drive of Georgian Theobalds Square. Evidence of the 16<sup>th</sup> C approach was revealed together with a demolished wall on a north south alignment which may suggest evidence of the boundary between two outer courts of the palace. A notable small find was a tiny lennox farthing 1615-1625 which was one of the first copper coins minted in England by James I. The people of Cheshunt came along in their hundreds over the weekend and overnight rain proved a blessing as the ground was very dry due to the close proximity of mature trees.

The weekend dig at Elsyng Palace also attracted a lot of public interest but alas until late on day three we did not have much of the Tudor Palace to show them. As we had suspected the geophysics anomaly we were investigating revealed itself as a further spread of compacted gravel overlying natural brick earth. Just as Martin our site director was getting ready to throw himself into the stream the warm orange brickwork of a vaulted Tudor drain was revealed on the last day of the dig in an eastern extension of the trench. Fragments of demolition rubble such as tile and broken brick were evident together with small pieces of salt glazed stone ware of around 1650. More detailed reports on these excavations are in

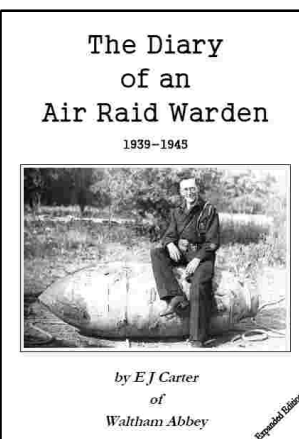
preparation and as usual will appear in future bulletins.

May I say as always a BIG thank you to all the diggers who came along and found the reserves of energy and enthusiasm which always make these excavations such a success? I would also like to thank Ailsa, Caroline and Lesley for looking after our sales table and selling lots of publications over the two weekends. The Society was represented with a small display in the Enfield Museum Service tent at the Autumn Show in the Town park, and we shall also be co-ordinating the recording of an 18<sup>th</sup> C (?) brick floor which has been discovered inches below a mulch surface at Cedars Park for 'make a difference day' on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October. This will be a real family day offering the opportunity for local children to help uncover some of their local history.

Further excavations are planned at Forty Hall and at Theobalds in the near future and meanwhile we shall be carrying out field walking surveys on local farms within the area. Brian Warren recently drew my attention to a reference on an early OS map of the Enfield Ridgeway area dated 1868 which reads 'Roman coins and urn found here Sept 1820'. Frustratingly comparison with modern field boundaries reveals that the find spot now lies under the Kings Chase Hospital annex extension!

MIKE DEWBREY

## New Book: The Diary of an Air Raid Warden by E. J. Carter



The diary & photos of Waltham Abbey's Chief Air Raid warden from 1939-1945. Includes an account of exercises and training 1939-40 and his experiences as official photographer of No 7 Group of London Region during the V1 & V2 campaign of 1945.

A4 book, 76 pages, over 150 photos

Price: £5

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[www.walthamabbeyhistoricalsociety.org.uk](http://www.walthamabbeyhistoricalsociety.org.uk)