



# *The Dulwich Society*

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TO FOSTER AND SAFEGUARD THE AMENITIES OF DULWICH

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*Newsletter 72*

*April 1986*

APRIL 1986

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NEWS

'LET'S MAKE HISTORY': The Dulwich Society and the staff of Dulwich library gave local people an opportunity to 'make history' on Saturday February 1.

Ten members of the society's local history group manned tape recorders at the library to record memories of local residents. The tapes will add to the store of information being gathered by the London oral history archives. It is hoped that transcripts of some of the tapes will be available for reproduction in future issues if the Newsletter.

\* \* \*

UNDERCOVER DULWICH: A plaque is to be affixed at Glenlea in memory of the 34 Dutch secret agents who lived there during the Second World War. Glenlea, Dulwich Common, was visited last summer. The riveting account of his own experiences, given at the lecture which followed by Braham Grisnigt, one of the five surviving agents, appears in full in Newsletter 69 - in case new members would like to track it down with the help of old members.

\* \* \*

CIVIC TRUST: The society continues to be registered with the Trust: its own springtime activities have so far prevented it from taking part in the Trust's annual national environment weeks.

One of our neighbouring societies, Camberwell, has won one of the Trust's 1985 awards, for its involvement in the restoration of Denmark Hill station. 'The Phoenix and Firkin' has risen from the ashes of the burnt-out waiting-room.

\* \* \*

GARDEN PONDS: Details of the wildlife meeting on 'Our garden ponds' on May 1 were given in the last Newsletter. Thirty-five ponds have so far been visited during the pond survey. Miss Rosa Davis and Miss Glynis Williams would be glad to hear of any others in the area. Please phone 670 3011 - if possible, before 9am.

\* \* \*

BEL AIR FETE: The society has agreed to man a stall this year. Offers of help are greatly needed and would be much appreciated. Members should contact their relevant sub-committees with ideas or suggestions and with offers to help man the stall.

\* \* \*

POETS PLEASE: Norman Lloyd-Miller, after searching in vain for the Dulwich poetry group, is trying to resuscitate it as the Southwark poetry group. Norman has already had some pieces published in the Southwark Sparrow (the council's local paper): one of his poems is included in this issue of the Newsletter. Anyone interested should contact him at 6 Grantham House, Green Hundred Road, SE15 1RT, tel: 732 9517. Local poets interested in having their poems published in the Newsletter - please let the editor have a copy, with a few biographical details. We would be delighted to print them, particularly if they are good and cover local subjects.

\* \* \*

WEST DULWICH STATION: British Rail is to increase the height of the fence between the 'down' walkway and the adjoining house: the fence as at present does not conform to statutory height regulations. The society has pointed out the large amount of litter at the station to BR.

\* \* \*

DULWICH HISTORICAL WALKS: For the past two years guided historical walks through Dulwich have been extremely popular. Lasting for around two hours of gentle strolling, they are a pleasant afternoon diversion. They are conducted by local historian Brian Green, and the proceeds are all donated to charity. The cost is £1 for adults and 50pence for children and senior citizens. Proceeds will go to the King's scanner appeal fund. For details of this summer's walks, see the 'What's On' section.

\* \* \*

BARCLAYS BOLLARDS: The society has told Southwark council it supports the council's proposal to replace bollards at the Old College roundabout outside Barclays Bank with white posts and chains.

\* \* \*

GRAPEVINE: Do you want to sell a piano? Buy a pony? Find an acupuncturist? Are you launching an am dram society? Starting a stamp collecting group? Setting up a new branch of joggers' anonymous? Do you have any small bits of information or news or ideas - a recipe, a haiku, a vignette from local life - that might intrigue, stimulate, exasperate, or fascinate friends, colleagues and fellow villagers? If any or all of these is true, let the newsletter know. We can't promise to use all but if they're short and to the point, we'll do our best. Please write to the editor (27 Woodwarde Rd SE22 8UN) and be sure to enclose your name, address and telephone number for replies (if any). What, after all, is a village without a grapevine?

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VILLAGE WAY, NO.19: An informal planning application has been made for seven three-storey houses to be built on this site. The society has agreed with Southwark Conservation Areas Advisory Committee that the site is not suitable for development.

\* \* \* \* \*

62 DULWICH VILLAGE: Portland Homes have submitted revised plans for development on the former rear garden area of 62 Dulwich Village, fronting Boxall Road. Earlier proposals for housing, shops and offices on the site were withdrawn last June after protests, including a petition organised by residents of Boxall Road and its environs supported by residents from all over Dulwich.

The new proposals are for a semi-detached pair of two-storey houses (illustrated in this edition of the Newsletter). A public meeting on February 27 at St Barnabas Hall voted strongly against further infilling on the site. The society fears that if the plans are allowed, they would completely alter the character of the village.

Southwark council has asked for comments on the proposals, which it has described as a "more limited form of development" than last year's application. As the Newsletter went to press, the council was planning to reach a decision at a committee meeting on April 8. The committee is open to the public. A fresh petition has already been organised against Portland's revised proposals. The statutory period for objections ended on March 11.

Last-minute representations may still carry weight, however, quoting Ref: TP/2292/62/LC. More information about the proposal, and objections to it, are available from the Southwark Planning department. Contacts are Phil Chambers (703-6311 Ext.2224) or Lesley Coffey (Ext. 2249).

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## No. 62, DULWICH VILLAGE: PROPOSALS



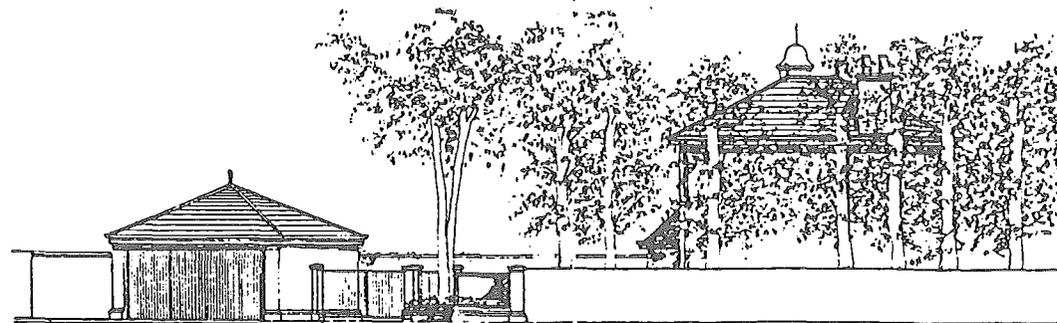
NORTH WEST ELEVATION

↑  
VIEW FROM THE NORTH-WEST



SOUTH EAST ELEVATION

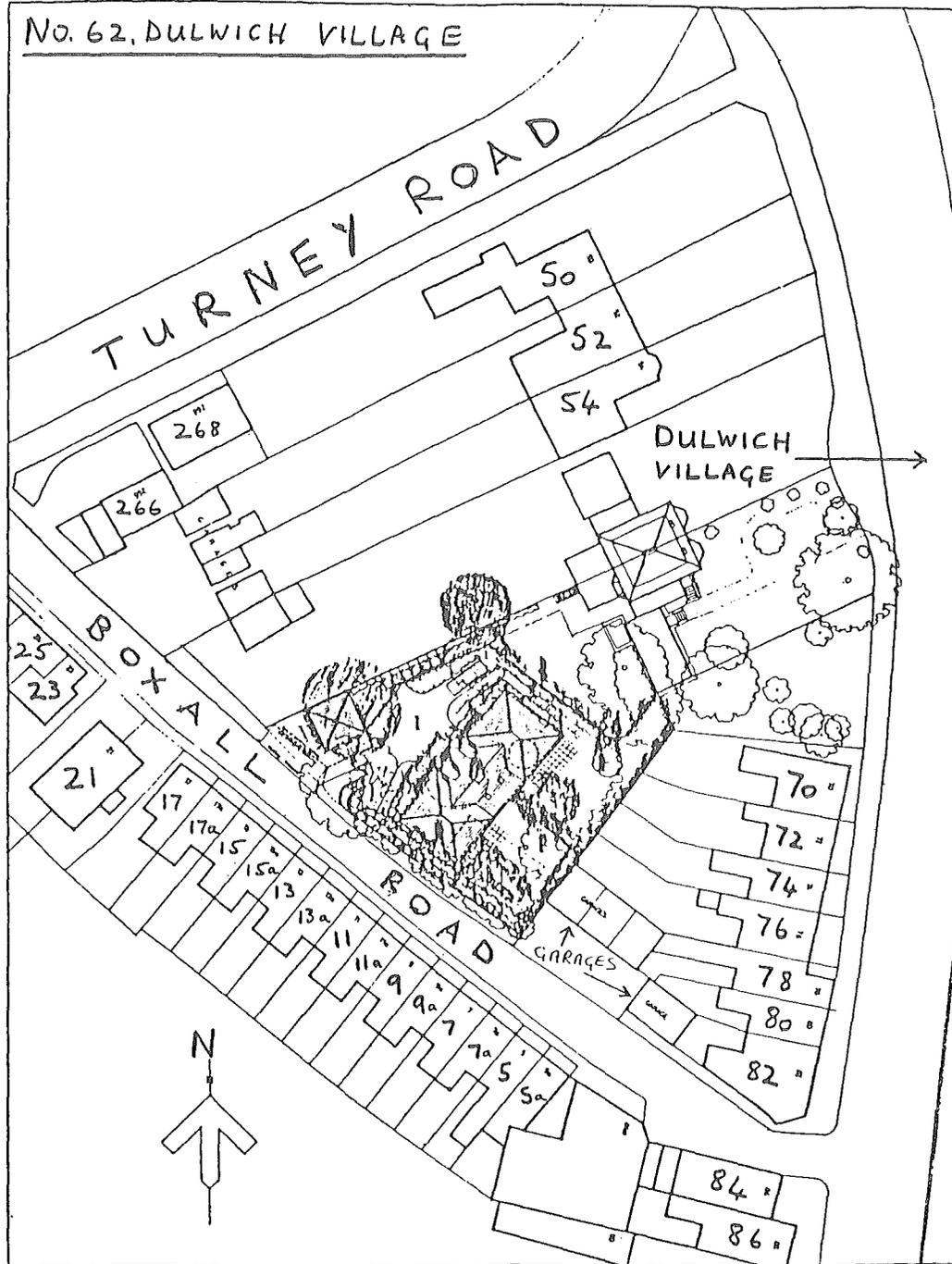
↑  
VIEW FROM THE SOUTH-EAST



SOUTH WEST (BOXALL ROAD) ELEVATION

↑  
VIEW FROM BOXALL ROAD (SOUTH-WEST)

No. 62, DULWICH VILLAGE



WHAT'S ON

April 25 & 26 (Friday/Saturday) Tickets-£2.00/£1.00 Bookable or At the door	St Barnabas Hall Dulwich Village	The Dulwich Players' production of "Season's Greetings" by Alan Ayckbourn. Box Off:- Mrs JM Bucknall Tel. 733 3169
May 1 (Thursday) 8pm	St Barnabas Hall Dulwich Village	'Our garden ponds' - for details see News item or Newsletter 71
May 11 (Sunday) 3.30-6.30pm Entrance 50p	The Grange Grange Lane	Open day at The Grange garden; tea and refreshments; sale and raffle; sale of plants. See Features
May 11 (Sunday) 2.30pm Adults-£1.00 Children/Senior Citizens-50p	Meet North Dulwich station	'The old village of Dulwich'- historical walk. See News item
May 16 (Friday) 7.00 for 7.30pm	Dulwich and Sydenham Golf Club	The Society's Annual Dinner - see Newsletter insert
May 18 (Sunday) 2.30pm Fee as above	Meet Belair car park	'Spies and fine houses' - historical walk. See as above
June 5 (Thursday) 7.45pm	The Old Blew House	Visit, wine and lecture - see Features
June 7 (Saturday) 8pm Tickets: £4.00 at the door £3.50 advance booking	Southwark Cathedral	Dulwich Choral Society - Vaughan Williams: Epithalamion Darke: As the leaves fall The Verona Ensemble Philip Smith - piano Box Off: Miss Wells Tel. 670 4960
June 12 - 15 (Thursday-Sunday) Starts 12noon Thurs.	St Barnabas Church	Flower Festival - see The Villager
June 14 & 15 (Saturday/Sunday)	Belair	Gala weekend organised by Southwark Entertainments. See News
June 22 (Sunday) 2.30pm Fee as above	Meet at The Grove Tavern (Harvester)	'Gypsies, woods and bovril' - a walk through Dulwich Woods and visit to Kingswood House. A rather more strenuous walk lasting 2½ hours

June 29 (Sunday) 2.30pm Fee as above	Meet at North Dulwich station	'The old village of Dulwich - re-visited
July 10 (Thursday) 7.30pm	Meet at College Road gate	Trees walk - a variation on the trail round Dulwich Park
July 27 (Sunday) 3.30-6.30pm Entrance 50p	The Grange Grange Lane	Open day at The Grange garden - as on May 11, but there will be NO sale of plants

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THE NATIONAL GARDENS SCHEME CHARITABLE TRUST

The garden of The Grange in Grange Lane was opened to the public for the first time, under the above scheme, last year. The two openings, attended by a total of 700 visitors, were generally declared so enjoyable that it has been decided to respond to the appeal of the NGS Trust to open it also in 1986. The organisers report that 1985 was yet again a record year for them, enabling them to distribute even more among their list of worth-while charities. Contributions country-wide had totalled £359,256: in the regional break-down, London had contributed £10,371. Of that total, more than £1000 had been contributed by supporters of one Dulwich garden.

This year there will be two openings, at slightly different seasons from last year. The dates allotted are Sunday May 11 and Sunday July 27, when the garden will be on view from 3.30pm to 6.30pm at an entrance fee of 50p. Tea and refreshments will be served. It is planned to have a sale of home-made cakes and various drinks and to organise a raffle on both occasions. There will be a sale of plants also, for the May opening only.

Arrangements have been made that a part of the proceeds from these functions shall go to the Streatham Home and Hospital for Incurables at Crown Point. Staff and friends of the Home have promised help with the service of teas and loan of basic furniture and equipment.

It is hoped that Dulwich can again make these into happy and informal garden parties earning once more the exceptional gratitude that the London organisers expressed at the success of last year's efforts.

Any one who would like to help in any way will be very welcome. Mr Fairlie can be reached by telephone at 693 1187 any day, preferably before 10am or after 5pm. All contributions in the way of plants, home-made cakes, etc. or raffle prizes, will be very gratefully received. The temporary loan of robust garden chairs and tables in conjunction with the service of the tea on the main lawn, will be very welcome as before.

Gerald Fairlie - Horticulture sub-committee

\* \* \* \* \*

WILDLIFE NEWS

CANADA GEESE: Members have queried why some of the Canada geese at the Mill Pond have deformed flight feathers and are unable to fly off with the others.

Too much feeding with bread and in-breeding have both been suggested as possible causes. One natural history authority whom we asked blamed mechanical damage rather than feeding (flying into pylon wires in a high wind, and so on). This, it is said, could cause damage to the feather socket, which should moult out, but on occasion damage can be permanent.

Canada geese are mainly grass feeders, so certainly bread is not the right food. The estates governors have been asked to allow the grass opposite Pond Cottages to grow longer so that the geese can graze it. One member is kindly providing corn to help in their feeding, as another authority has told us that this particular deformity is due to a vitamin deficiency, so hopefully the next generation of geese will have perfectly-formed wings.

We shall continue to watch the geese on the Mill Pond and on Dulwich Park and Bel Air lakes. Any observations from members will be welcome.

Marjorie Campbell

\* \* \*

SIGHTINGS: When the wood mice visit the apple storer things start to look up for the fieldfare. Day after day it stands on the lawn guarding, and eating, damaged fruit. Together with our other wintering thrush, the redwing, numbers recorded this season are low but may well increase before emigration in a few weeks' time. Fourteen redpolls haunt the birches in the park, sometimes accompanied by blue tits but not, as in previous years, greenfinches and goldfinches. Tufted duck, most of them winter visitors, are on the park lake. The cool spell seems to be inhibiting birdsong though the wood pigeons carry on regardless. To date, no fall in numbers of resident birds has been noted.

Only the footprints of foxes have been recorded in the snow. Hopefully reporters will have been able to seize the opportunity afforded by the snow-cover to note other mammals which have been active.

Don Freshwater - wildlife recorder (693 1666)  
February 12 1986

\* \* \*

NESTING TIME: Spring is just around the corner and the starlings are already in and out of the nest boxes which I put up for the swifts. I erected these boxes because swifts have been losing many of their old nesting sites with the demolition of the Victorian houses.

Now is the time to make sure all nest boxes are cleaned out, and repaired if necessary, or new ones erected. Having seen cats on the tops of my boxes when they have been in trees, I think the best sites are those on the brick walls of houses or garages which are not so easy for cats to climb. Make sure, however, that no tree or shed is less than 10 feet away. Last year a family of blue tits was lost because I had not realised that cats are able to leap quite long distances.

Rosa Davis

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## THE OLD BLEW HOUSE EVENING

There will be a unique opportunity to visit this historic house and its grounds and to hear its history told by members of the local history group this summer.

The visit to the house, by kind permission of the owners Drs. Gazzard, will take place at 7.45pm Thursday June 5, followed by wine in the Old Library of Dulwich College and the lecture.

The Old Blew House dates back to the sixteenth century. When Edward Alleyn, the Elizabethan actor and founder of Dulwich College, purchased the manor of Dulwich he left the house in his will to the parish of St Botolphs Bishopsgate, the parish where he was baptised. Alleyn willed that the rent annually obtained by St Botolphs should be distributed amongst its poor.

The connection with the city parish still continues in that a number of residents of Edward Alleyn House in College Road are nominated from that parish.

Tickets for 'The Old Blew House Evening' are available from the ART STATIONERS, DULWICH VILLAGE, price £1.50 (including wine).

Brian Green

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## 1986: THE YEAR OF THE BAT

During 1985 a survey of bats was carried out by the Flora and Fauna Preservation Society in the London area, helped by a GLC grant, and some important information was gained: but we are realising the bats have decreased alarmingly in numbers. We also know little about their natural history.

Research is continuing, and any help from Dulwich society members on bat sightings or known roosts would be appreciated. As most people know, it is illegal to disturb hibernating bats (which will probably die), or to try to exterminate them from one's own loft. Many colonies are said to be in modern houses rather than in older ones.

Between March and April, bats should be coming out of hibernation. A London bat group has been formed, and one of its first objectives is to find out numbers and the vicinity of hibernating roosts and breeding places so that protection can be given.

We know that there are two species in our area, one bat larger than the other, as they have been seen in the lights at the Crystal Palace summer concerts. They seem to prefer the vicinity of water, but last year one was seen on fields behind Stonehills Court, and a pair at the top of Grange Lane.

If you have seen bats near your house, you may like to make roosting boxes. I will be pleased to give details to anyone interested.

Please report any sightings to me (Miss Rosa Davis - 670 3011, if possible before 9am) so that we can contribute to the London bat research programme.

Rosa Davis - wildlife sub-committee

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## PAYING FOR VILLAGE AMENITIES: THE

## ESTATES GOVERNORS EXPLAIN

By John Wylie

About 2,500 owners of freehold properties in Dulwich will shortly receive a demand for a charge levied every five years by the estates governors. Those who have owned their freeholds for more than five years will of course recall the last charge. Those who have purchased their freehold recently - either from the estates governors or from a previous individual freeholder - may be less aware of the charge, and the reason for it.

The charge arises from the estates governors' scheme of management, which in turn is derived from the Leasehold Reform Act 1967. Before the passing of that Act, the freehold of the vast majority of all property (and of almost all private houses) on the Dulwich estate was owned by the estates governors, although most houses were subject to long leases in the ownership of individuals.

Most readers will know that it was the Act of 1967 which enabled most owners of long leases to purchase their freeholds, whether or not the landlord wished to sell. This is not the place for any comment on the fairness or otherwise of the compensation provisions of the Act! Since then, the governors have also voluntarily sold other freeholds on the estate. All sales since 1967 - whether within the Leasehold Reform Act or outside it - have been made subject to the terms of the estates governors' scheme of management.

It was realised at the time of the enactment of the 1967 legislation that there was considerable potential danger to the quality of the amenity of many urban estates, if individual properties were sold without any control (apart from existing town planning regulations and other bye-laws), particularly over development and redevelopment of properties, or alterations to the external appearance. A device was needed, in the words of the Act, "to maintain adequate standards of appearance and amenity and regulate redevelopment in the area". It was recognised that in such cases "the landlord should retain powers of management in respect of the house and premises". The Dulwich scheme of management was finally approved by the High Court in 1974. The scheme enables the estates governors to exercise a measure of control not only over matters such as those referred to above, but also over the conservation and replacement of our magnificent stock of trees, in which the Dulwich society takes such an active interest.

For the general enjoyment of those who live in Dulwich, the governors also maintain extensive areas of amenity land, roads and footpaths. Responsibilities encompass, at one end of the scale, extensive tracts of woodland, and, at the other, the distinctive white posts and chains in the centre of the village and elsewhere. In practice, the greater part of the amount which is about to be recharged is in respect of this aspect of the estates governors' duties. The costs of matters such as control of development and conservation of trees are met partly by fees charged for individual consents, and partly by a general charge for administration which is added to the directly identifiable costs which are included in the scheme.

The individual charges are calculated on the rateable value of each freehold property. Accounts for the current period have recently been approved by the estates governors' auditors; the charge now due is to be 14.45 pence in the pound of rateable value. Thus, the owner of a house with a rateable value of, say, £500 will pay a total charge of £72.25 (£500 x 14.45p), or £14.45 for each of the last five years. (The charge in 1981 was 7.8p in the pound).

Finally, a reference should be made to the work of the advisory committee. This committee was set up as part of the Order which constituted the scheme of management. It comprises equal numbers of representatives of the estates governors and of representatives of local residents and amenity societies. There are currently eight members of the committee: four estates governors and two representatives each from the Dulwich Society and the Dulwich Residents' Association. The committee meets twice a year, and in my (very limited) experience, provides an extremely welcome opportunity for exchanges of views between all those who are concerned to maintain and enhance the outstanding quality of amenity and environment of Dulwich.

28 February 1986

Mr Wylie was recently appointed general manager and secretary of the Dulwich estates governors.

LA SERENISSIMA

Do not slip away  
Stay out of the lake and smells  
Of last week's fishing.

Tomorrow's children  
Should see you before you die;  
Should sail these canals.

Sink slowly Island!  
How can you hurry? You have  
Friends here yet to meet.

Culled pearls of Art, those  
Oysters fished by Bellini  
and Tintoretto;

For whom displayed here?  
In dressings of Gothic and  
Baroque's high splendour;

Only ignored by  
Snowstorms of pigeons feeding  
In cold piazzas.

Choose, leaning Island.  
Day by day your lagoon is  
Obscured by grey mists

Unfocussed screen of  
Lavender vision of winds  
From the Sirocco!

Norman Lloyd-Miller.

\* \* \* \* \*

SEVEN YEARS OF GARDEN VISITS

A modest invitation which appeared towards the end of the April 1979 newsletter heralded not only a worthwhile visit to one of the most interesting gardens in Dulwich. It also demonstrated the interest in informal garden visits, hitherto unfulfilled, among members of our society. The horticulture sub-committee and interested members owe their thanks to Mr Fairlie's inspired idea and to his willingness to demonstrate its viability in opening his own garden over the weekend of May 18-20 1979.

It was this gathering of like-minded people which led to the formation of the sub-committee and to the election of Dr TH Frankel as its Chairman. Dr Frankel in turn opened his garden, to mark the official formation of the Dulwich Society horticulture sub-committee on October 6 1979. Since this first official garden visit 41 gardens have been admired in 68 visits. Twelve gardens have been visited more than once and seven gardens more than twice in the past six years, in addition to one or two special charitable horticultural functions to which our members were invited.

In recent years 16 or more invitations have been circulated each season to all our members on the horticulture register, which now lists about 200 households. There are so many fixtures at weekends in the Dulwich area in the season that very few members are free to come to all garden openings. Some members now live in flats so that, if they have been keen gardeners in the past, they may be especially hungry for these garden visits.

The sub-committee would like to thank all those who have been so generous in allowing us to come and look at their gardens. We try to keep the visits not only informal but also enjoyable. Since the printing and distribution of these invitations involves a large amount of voluntary work, members of the society who are on our register but who have not attended a visit for a year or so are asked if they wish to continue on it. Our register is open at all times to Dulwich society members on application to a member of the sub-committee: it usually stands at about its present strength.

It is very difficult to believe that it has been just over six years since the first garden visit. For some of us, the quiet pleasure of walking round individual gardens, whatever the size, shape or type of plants, on a summer's afternoon, either in sunshine or a light drizzle - the latter on surprisingly few occasions - has not diminished. It remains without doubt one of the best remedies for a busy week.

The visitor can gather much useful information: on plants which tolerate Dulwich soils, particularly the more unusual varieties of plants; on common problems of pests and diseases and how to treat them without upsetting the balance of nature; and on how to come up with an answer to planting a particularly difficult corner of the garden. For the committee the best result of all has always been the unanimous feeling voiced by gardeners many of whom were hesitant initially about opening their gardens. Not only did they thoroughly enjoy the event itself - during which they were asked many practical questions - but they derived an added pleasure from so many acknowledgements of the hard work which had gone into their garden over the years. No matter how modest the garden, the results of that hard work were appreciated - because others had experienced similar difficulties with their own gardens.

Meanwhile, Dulwich gardens are thriving and more of us are better acquainted. The committee would be delighted to learn from any

gardeners who have not been asked to open their garden and would like to host a visit on their own terms. In many cases hosts display a 'begging bowl' for their favourite charity so that those who so wish can express their gratitude for the hospitality provided.

Mary Nurse

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#### A HELPING HAND FOR HEDGEHOGS

Two of our members send in regular sightings of hedgehogs. One has observed them for some years in her garden near Red Post Hill where they come to be fed in the evenings. The other has watched them alongside her house in Burbage Road, where it is hoped no disturbance will be caused by proposed development. Mating ritual with accompanying snortings, and the claiming of territorial rights, have been watched with interest. We are grateful to both these members, and hope that the following notes may be helpful for those who find hedgehogs coming into their gardens.

From early spring, mid-March into April, hedgehogs will be coming out of hibernation and will need plenty of food and water to regain the weight and strength lost during winter sleep. This can be as much as one third of their normal weight. Hopefully no hedgehogs have suffered this spring from the burning of garden waste on bonfires. While asleep they are rolled into tight balls, with their spines of similar appearance to pieces of stick.

Their nests are built at night with bunches of dry leaves carried to the site in their mouths. Breeding can start in late March and the litter ranges from two to seven. The young are born blind and the first spines are white. A second brood is often born in October, and many of these babies do not survive the winter unless they have built up a lot of fat on their bodies before hibernation.

Their main food requirements are earthworms, slugs, beetles and so on, but garden feeding often includes bread, milk, finely chopped pieces of cooked vegetables and hard-boiled egg and peanuts.

They have very poor eyesight and have to rely on smell in searching for food. Sadly hedgehogs can die from eating poisoned slugs and insects killed by pesticides. Slug pellets, if used, should always be hidden under pieces of stone or similar cover: dead slugs should be removed each day.

We should be glad of further sightings.

Joyce Webster

and

Mary Savage

\* \* \* \* \*

#### DULWICH GALLERY: A 'RUINED' CLAUDE RETURNS TO VIEW

Among the pictures in store at Dulwich Picture Gallery there are a large number of works once thought to be by the great masters but now demoted to "school of...", "version of...", or worse. A few paintings not normally on view are works of high quality which over the centuries have suffered such severe damage that they cannot be exhibited.

One of the most notable of these was a picture by Claude Lorrain, the seventeenth century French artist who spent most of his career in Rome and in his day was the darling of the European aristocracy; his style has always been especially popular in England and is represented additionally at Dulwich by his fine Jacob and Laban, painted in 1676 when he was 76 years old.

In about 1641 he executed a Landscape with Peasants gathering Grapes, and this is the other Claude at Dulwich. It is a fairly small work, on canvas, and shows a group of cheerful rustics seated in front of a classical arch, with a lake and mountains in the background. The picture is described by Professor Roethlisberger, the leading authority on Claude's paintings, as 'certainly original, but in ruined condition'.

How or when it was damaged we do not know, though the damage probably occurred many years ago; even so, Turner especially admired it. A considerable part of the canvas, however, remained in good condition, and it was this fact that prompted Patrick Lindsay, a highly experienced picture restorer with an especial fondness for the gallery, to offer to work on the picture. This he has done, and in spite of the painting's previously unhappy condition he has succeeded in revealing its qualities to make it once again a work that the public can appreciate and enjoy. We are extremely grateful to him for his contribution. The picture, in its newly restored frame, will be going on view at the gallery this summer.

Giles Waterfield (Director of the gallery)

\* \* \* \* \*



*Gathering Grapes — Claude Lorrain*

## THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 23rd Annual General Meeting of the society took place on March 6 and was attended by some sixty-five members. Before the meeting, the President, Lord Shawcross, had advised the Chairman he would not seek re-election this year. He has been the society's President since his election at the inaugural AGM in 1964. The Chairman expressed his sadness at the severing of this long connection. He was however happy to welcome Lord Silkin, and to propose his election as the new President. The election was unanimous, and Lord Silkin who, like his predecessor, is a former Attorney-General, also received good wishes from members on his birthday.

The Chairman opened with a statement that the membership stood at a gratifying nine hundred plus, but that he hoped this could be increased to one thousand plus. This would help to add more weight to the views put forward by the society. The merger of the transport and planning sub-committees was working well. The expertise of the new editor, David Lord, should be of great benefit to the newsletter, and the work needed to produce the first booklet (on the subject of Kingswood House) for printing had been excellently carried out by Patrick Darby.

The Chairman went on to say that West Dulwich station provides visitors with deplorable first impressions of the area; the Chairman was being aided by a member of the Council in his efforts to bring pressure to bear on British Rail to improve the squalid conditions in and around the station, and with the Council on similar conditions at the near-by bottle-bank as well as on the surrounding fence. Despite warning notices, people continued to leave boxes, cartons and carrier bags around the bottle-banks.

Freeholders would shortly be receiving an account for the five-yearly charge levied under the estates governors' scheme of management. The basis for the charge would be 14.45pence in each pound of rateable value. Thus on a rateable value of £500 the freeholder would be charged a total of £72.25, (500x14.45p), which would cover the five-year period.

The Chairman then spoke of the desirability of participation in the Neighbourhood Watch scheme, introduced in conjunction with the police authorities, and the value of this scheme as a deterrent to the crime of burglary.

The Chairman concluded his report by giving details for this year's annual dinner. These are given in the insert to this newsletter.

The following points made by sub-committee Chairmen in their annual reports have not been covered in previous newsletters.

### Transport and Planning.

Mr Reid, the immediate past Chairman of the sub-committee, had now left Dulwich, and Mr Todd, his temporary successor, paid a warm tribute to the excellence of his reporting of the society's views to the estates governors and the Borough councils. Members with objections to the new plans for 62 Dulwich Village should report them to the Chairman-elect, Mr Collins. The survey on the South Circular Road would restart after the abolition of the GLC on April 1.

### Horticulture.

One member had received a best-of-show award at the last Tradescant Fair. More than 13,000 invitations to visit members' gardens had been issued since the visits began in 1979.

### Wildlife.

Good wishes were extended to Miss Pye Smith, a long-standing member and a former Chairman of the sub-committee, who would shortly be leaving Dulwich.

### Trees.

Members had been impressed by the thoroughness with which the estates governors conducted the monthly surveys. The sub-committee had a good working relationship with the arboricultural officer for Southwark. Dangers to trees posed by planning applications were closely watched.

### Local History.

Mr Green, the Chairman of the sub-committee, was studying for a diploma in local history. Mrs Rosser, Mr Taylor-Milne, Mr Darby and Mr Green formed the team engaged in the detailed research needed for the lectures on houses in Dulwich. The sub-committee hoped to receive some copies of the tapes made at Dulwich library. Nicholas Reed, the Chairman of the Peckham society, whose exhibition on Pissarro was on display in the hall, was introduced to members.

### Membership and Publicity.

Mr Webb emphasised the need for a membership of more than one thousand again so that activities and functions could be adequately financed, and more weight added to the society's views. New publicity was being placed locally with estate agents. Mr Webb thanked the six zone distributors, and Mrs Morgan in particular, for their continued hard work.

Presenting the audited accounts and balance sheet for 1985, the Treasurer reported much-needed income which accrued from the national savings investment account had covered the publication of the Kingswood booklet. An audit had been carried out by the Inland Revenue of current Deeds of Covenant; the Treasurer would be asking for new Deeds of Covenant in January 1987; members were warned! The accounts and balance sheet were adopted: they are printed in this newsletter.

The Secretary said the Camberwell society was to be congratulated on winning a Civic Trust 1985 award. The society had supported plans to restore the burnt-out part of Denmark Hill station by the creation of 'The Phoenix and Firkin'.

Sir Frederick Everson, Mr Emms and Mr Pattie were re-elected as Vice-Presidents of the society, and Mr Hall Clark was proposed and duly elected a Vice-President. The Vice-Chairman outlined the estates governors' indebtedness to Mr Hall Clark, who had been largely responsible for the case for a scheme of management being won by the governors in the High Court in 1974, following the passing of the Leasehold Reform Act in 1967.

The list of nominations for the officers and members of the executive committee was then read; all nominees had agreed to serve, and the Chairman declared them duly elected. Names and responsibilities are given on page -a- of the pull-out calendar in the centre of this newsletter.

The Hon Auditor, Mr Jeffries, was re-elected in his absence.

The Chairman then took questions from the floor, under any other business. A member expressed doubts that the estates governors were fulfilling their obligations under the scheme of management to conserve and preserve amenities in Dulwich, and said he felt that residents should have been given earlier notice of the impending charge to be levied under the scheme. He also felt that newsletters should carry more information on the running of the estate.

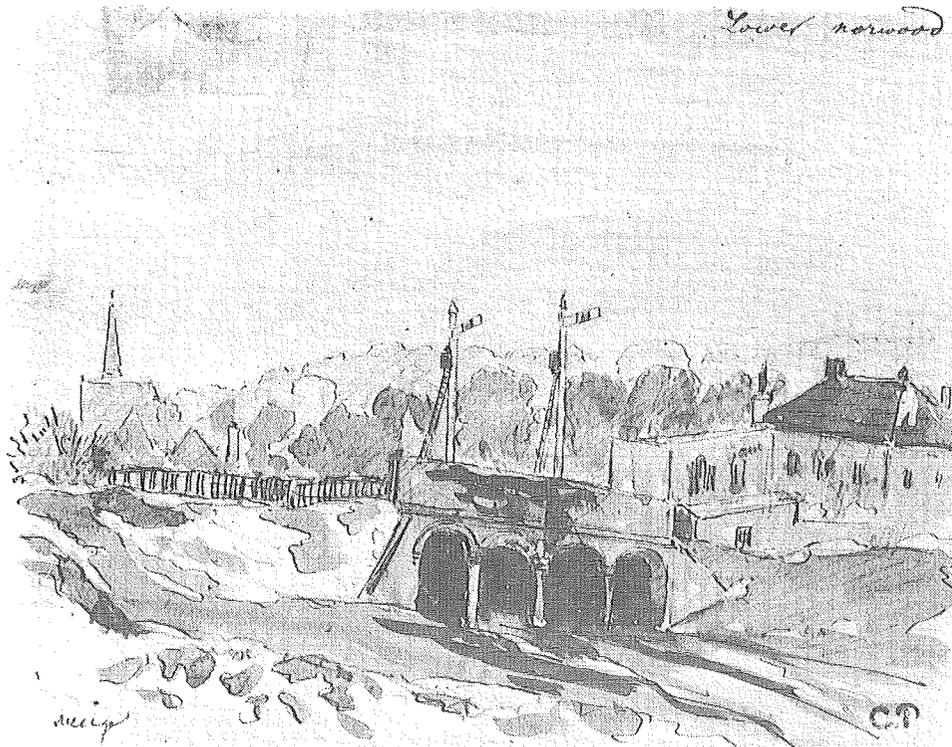
In his reply, the Chairman agreed that details of the management charge should have been given by the estates governors at the end of 1985. Future editions of the newsletter would include more details of work undertaken by the estates governors. Referring to the Estates accounts, the Vice-Chairman pointed out that these were published and could be bought by anyone at the Estates office.

Nicholas Reed then accepted the Chairman's invitation to speak, and told members that when he began putting together a small display on Pissarro two years ago he had twelve exhibits; since then, he had discovered three more. He had been delighted to discover that one of these was an original work, painted by Pissarro in 1870. The subject was a railway station seen from a distance, and there were conflicting views as to which station Pissarro had chosen to paint: it was known to be one within a mile or so from Dulwich. Mr Reed did know the answer. But, was anyone else able to make a correct identification?

After a Vote of Thanks to the Chairman was proposed by the Vice-Chairman and seconded from the floor, the meeting ended at 9.50pm.

Robin Taylor

\* \* \* \* \*



*The Latest Pissarro*

### Treasurer's Report, 1985

The audited Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1985 and the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended that date are shown in full in this issue.

The Society has continued to benefit from high interest rates, £596 having been earned during the year.

The modest surplus of £140 is after expenditure of £494 on the "Kingswood" History, which was circulated to all members free of charge. 500 additional copies were printed for sale and these were held in stock at the end of the year. The Local History Sub-Committee plans to produce a second booklet in 1986.

This is the third year of maintaining the subscription at £2. Costs of the Newsletter, Meeting expenses, etc., have inevitably risen over the three years but every endeavour is made to keep expenditure down without restricting the work of the Society.

Members are asked seriously to consider signing a deed of covenant for a minimum of four years, thus, without any additional cost to themselves, enabling the Society to increase its income by 86 pence per member.

I would again thank all those members who paid their subscriptions promptly when due on 1st January, those who have introduced new members in response to Jeremy Webb's appeal in the January 1986 Newsletter, and those who have generously sent donations in appreciation of the Society's efforts.

There is always much to be done and your continued support and interest are vital to the well-being of the Society.

A. J. DAVIS, F.C.A.

THE DULWICH SOCIETY

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1985

<u>1984</u>			<u>1985</u>
	<u>INCOME</u>		
1,899	Subscriptions received		1,984
106	Tax Recovery - Deeds of Covenant		112
372	Interest Received		596
9	Donations and Sundry		42
2,386	- Sale of Books		7
			<u>2,741</u>
	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
1,158	Newsletters and Broadsheets		1,376
-	Local History Booklets		494
251	Printing, Stationery and Publicity		151
130	Postage and Telephone		116
249	Hire of Hall and Meeting Expenses		325
108	Subscriptions, Presentation and Tree Planting		43
(45)	Social Events		90
(16)	Bank Charges		6
2,035	London Wildlife Trust - Fighting Fund for		
200	Great North Wood		-
			<u>2,601</u>
<u>£ 351</u>			<u>£ 140</u>

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1985

NET ASSETS

	Investments		
1,200	British 9½% Savings Bonds		-
2,178	National Savings Investment Account		3,995
4,066	Barclays Bank Deposit Account		18
			<u>4,013</u>
70	Cash at Bank		341
402	<u>Less:</u> Sundry Creditors	472	
94	Subscriptions in advance	108	
496		580	
(390)	Deduct Sundry Debtor	112	(468)
<u>£3,746</u>			<u>£3,886</u>

REPRESENTED BY:

3,395	Accumulated Fund as at 1st January 1985	3,746
351	Add: Surplus for year	140
<u>£3,746</u>		<u>£3,886</u>

*[Signature]*  
CHAIRMAN

*[Signature]*  
TREASURER

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE DULWICH SOCIETY

The above Accounts show a true and fair view of the financial state of the Society and the results for the year ended 31st December, 1985.

4th February, 1986.

*[Signature]*  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT.