



# *The Dulwich Society*

TO FOSTER AND SAFEGUARD THE AMENITIES OF DULWICH

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NEWSLETTER 25: JULY 1974

Chairman: Sir Frederick Everson, KCMG, 8 Gainsborough Court, College Road, SE21 7LT. 693 8125.

Vice Chairman: Peter F.J.Lawson, 41 Village Way, SE21. 733 2646.

Secretary: Edgar Brady, 79 Burbage Road SE24. 274 7941.

Treasurer: R.C.Low, 14 Acacia Grove SE21. 670 1609.

Editor: R.M.S.Maude, 19 Oakfield Gardens SE19. 670 7963.

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We are continuing the Newsletter in its new form since we have had no adverse comments on the last one and we hope that this means that everyone likes it and finds it useful.

We shall not be producing the Kalendar in its usual form this year. For those who may have joined recently and have not seen a Kalendar, this is a small leaflet giving some information about the Society and a list of the active members. It has been our habit in the past few years to distribute this as widely as possible among households in the Estates area in order to recruit new members, but this is a wasteful process since the majority of them obviously finish up in the wastepaper basket. This year we are printing the lists of active

members in this Newsletter where it will be of use to existing members, and we shall distribute a sample 'Broadsheet' to all households - or as many as we can manage - in the autumn to encourage new members to join for 1975. Your editor will be very glad to hear from anyone who could help with the distribution of the Broadsheet - probably in October.

#### MEETINGS FOR MEMBERS

Meetings are normally held on the first Thursday of each month, but it seems unlikely that we shall be arranging anything for September. Consequently the programme for the autumn will be as follows:

3 October, 8 pm St Barnabas Hall:

An open meeting to inform all members of current matters of interest in the Society and to encourage new members to join.

Light refreshments will be available.

7 November and 5 December:

Programmes are in preparation and will be announced in the next Newsletter.

There will also be a bird-watching expedition on Sunday 29 September 1974 organised by the Wild Life Sub-Committee. For details please see the section on Wild Life in this Newsletter.

In 1975 the first three meetings will be organised by sub-committees as follows: 2 January, Planning; 6 February, Traffic; 6 March, the AGM. Details will be given in later Newsletters.

#### LEASEHOLD REFORM: THE MANAGEMENT SCHEME

The Advisory Committee, constituted as reported in the April Newsletter, has met for the first time. Naturally there were no applications to consider since no leaseholders have yet acquired their freeholds. So the meeting dealt mainly with procedure.

Mr Maw was elected Chairman of the Advisory Committee and Mr Baker Deputy Chairman. The Managers are to provide secretarial service.

It was agreed that lists of applications made under the Scheme, with sufficient indication of the nature of each application, shall be circulated to members of the Advisory Committee and it is hoped and expected that it

will often be possible for them to inform the Secretary to the Managers quite speedily that they do not wish to make any representations. Otherwise applications will be held up until the Committee has met. It was agreed that the Committee should be called together if it was desired to discuss making representations on any application to the Managers. It was also thought desirable that the Committee should meet regularly and a further meeting was fixed for October.

The Committee discussed how to implement the last words in clause 16.b.iii of the Scheme, 'representations .... otherwise concerning the amenities of the Estate'. We shall have to feel our way on this clause. The Dulwich Society's representatives, Sir Frederick Everson, Chairman and Mr P.F.J. Lawson, Vice Chairman, will no doubt hear from members who are concerned about matters (necessarily of general interest) which might be the subject of representations to the Managers under this clause.

One such matter was discussed. A representative of the Leaseholders' Association, supported by the Dulwich Society's representatives, asked that neighbours should always be consulted when the Governors are considering an application to alter a property if the alteration would affect the neighbour's amenities. For the Governors reply was made that it is already their policy to do so.

#### PLANNING MATTERS

##### DEVELOPMENTS IN DULWICH WOOD AVENUE

Planning permission has been given for development of the land behind nos. 22-28 Dulwich Wood Avenue for new housing. Since there are a number of old trees in this area the question of preservation has already been taken up with the Borough Planners; we shall watch developments.

##### BUILDINGS OF LOCAL AND HISTORIC INTEREST

In the last Newsletter we published a list of the buildings in Dulwich that are already included either in the Department of Environment's statutory list of 'buildings of special architectural and historical interest' or in the Borough of Southwark's list of 'buildings of local interest'. The Planning and Local History Sub-Committees have now completed a survey of the area as a result of which they have recommended to the London Borough of Southwark that the following buildings in the area are of sufficient interest to merit inclusion in the 'local interest' list. The list is as follows:

- 1: CRESCENT WOOD ROAD  
 'Redbanks' and 'Feyenoord', nos. 2 and 4:  
 Pair of well-preserved red brick Victorian residences now converted to flats. Very pleasing appearance.
- No. 3 (1869): historical connection. Home of John Logie Baird whilst developing first television. Pleasing architecture.
- No. 1 'Lyncombe' (1869) with coachhouse: example of typical mid-19th century architecture by Charles Barry. Now converted to flats.
- 'Six Pillars' (1935): a striking modern residence designed by Harding and Tecton. Mentioned in Pevsner's Buildings of England, London Vol. 2. One of few noteworthy modern buildings in the area.
- 2: SYDENHAM HILL  
 Dulwich Wood House: well preserved example of typical typical early Victorian rural public house with beer-garden.
- No. 111 'Beechgrove' (1860): Very pleasing architecture in good state of preservation. Historic connections. Visited by King George VI for speech therapy when home of Dr Logue until 1946. Now Camberwell Hospital Group Old People's Convalescent Home.
- No. 41 'Beltwood' with Lodge: Victorian, well preserved. Last example of Sydenham Hill mansion in its own grounds. Now a hostel for Kings Dental Nurses.
- 'Stoney Hill', Rockhill: stable and coachhouse block round courtyard of very pleasing appearance. Mid-19th century. Now converted to private residence.
- 3: DULWICH WOOD AVENUE  
 24, 26, 28: Victorian mansions in good state of preservation and still in private occupation: STRONGLY RECOMMENDED for preservation AS A GROUP.
- 4: ALLEYN PARK  
 No. 15: pleasing example of late Victorian suburban architecture. Good state of preservation. Still in private occupation.
- 5: ALLEYN ROAD  
 No. 12: perfect example of 1870's Victorian creeper-covered villa. Still in private occupation and in very good state of preservation.

Nos. 1 to 15: Very pleasing and well preserved unbroken group of private residences. STRONGLY RECOMMENDED as a group as example of mid-Victorian suburban architecture.

#### THE COUNCIL SEES THE LIGHT

In the dark of midwinter men bearing banners with a strange device, 'London Borough of Southwark Engineers Department', appeared unheralded in Court Lane Gardens; and lo! when they had gone, there were no longer four modest street lights in that quiet place but twelve: the original four and another eight. And the eight were not small, inconspicuous iron structures but large concrete objects more suited (one might say almost without exaggeration) to a motorway than to a quiet place frequented at night only by the occasional returning reveller.

The wrath of the residents was terrible to see, and letters descended by pigeon, balloon, and even - by mistake perhaps - by post upon the unfortunate Council responsible for this atrocity. Nevertheless, knowing the ways of authority, it was the expectation of all that this would be the end of the matter and that, protest or no, the new standards would in the fullness of time blossom with light. Imagine, then, the wonderment among the populace when again the men of power appeared, smote the concrete monoliths to the ground and erected in their place small, modest, propitiatory steel standards of an altogether more seemly kind; and when this was followed by a message from the authority not only saying that the will of the people had been done but thanking them for their interest!

Praise does not often descend upon Borough Engineers. Let it be all the more unstinting then when it does; and let us single out the name of Mr Hart of the Borough Engineer's Department for especial thanks, it being he who sealed the bargain and was responsible for the good deed. We are grateful to him.

#### CRYSTAL PALACE FORUM

The Dulwich Society, the Norwood Society and other local amenity organisations have been invited to join this body, formed by the GLC 'to advise the Council's Arts & Recreation Committee of local feeling on matters relating to and affecting the future of Crystal Palace

and its grounds'. Its main concerns are with the Palace site, the Crystal Palace Park and Zoo and of course the High Level Station site, all of which are of great interest to us. The Forum has held two meetings; Mr Ron Burton of the Planning Sub-Committee represented the Dulwich Society. More details in the next Newsletter.

#### PICTURE BOOK OF DULWICH HISTORY

A new history of Dulwich is being prepared for publication late this year or early next. The author is third generation Old Alleynian Evan Davies, a professional picture researcher who has worked on many major publishing projects of a national nature, and who has lived all his life in Dulwich.

'THE BOOK OF DULWICH' is intended to be an extensively illustrated record of both town and village, throughout its history. The book itself will be a beautifully leather and cloth bound volume, with gold blocking and a colourful dustjacket, in a large format with some 200 illustrations.

The book depends for its publication, by specialist publishers Barracuda Books Ltd, on sufficient subscriptions. The publishers and author are looking for 1000 people to reserve copies at £6 each, although they only want a commitment from would-be buyers, and expect no cash until the book is available for distribution.

In order to support the project and obtain a copy, subscribers are invited to put their names and addresses on the special subscription lists which will be on permanent display at Ye Olde Tucke Shoppe in the village. Or telephone Mr De Baerdemaecker for a form.

In return for their support, subscribers will enjoy a price advantage, for the book will subsequently retail for £7.50 a copy. They will also each receive an individually numbered copy, with their names listed inside the book itself.

Members of the Society may wish to put their names down as supporters and eventual subscribers. The size of the book is to be 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ " by 8".

#### THE DULWICH SOCIETY KALENDAR: 1974

IF you are already a member, please keep these four pages carefully for reference.

#### OFFICERS OF THE DULWICH SOCIETY

President: The Rt Hon Lord Shawcross, PC, QC  
Vice Presidents: James Fitton, RA  
Lord Hinton of Bankside  
C.W.Lloyd, MA  
S.C.Silkin, QC, BA, MP  
Hon Auditor: Ken A.G.Jeffries, FCA, 119 Alleyn Park  
SE 21, 693 5270  
Press Officer: John Cran, 670 4105

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman: Sir Frederick Everson, KCMG, B SC, company director, 8 Gainsborough Court SE21 7LT, 693 8125.  
Vice Chairman: Peter F.J.Lawson, DA, FRIBA, FI ARB, 41 Village Way SE21, 733 2646, chartered architect, representative on the Southwark Conservation Areas Advisory Committee.  
Secretary: Edgar Brady, 79 Burbage Road SE24, 274 7941.  
Treasurer: R.C.Low, FCII, FCIB, 14 Acacia Grove SE21, 670 1609, company director.  
Geoffrey Hall Clark, 23 Gilkes Crescent SE21 7BP, 693 3003, lawyer, Chairman of Legal Sub-Committee.  
I.H.Lightman, 22 Walkers Croft Mead SE21, 670 4743, civil servant, Chairman of Town Planning Sub-committee.  
W.A.Alan Barnard, 18 Dovercourt Road SE22, 693 6487, Chairman of Trees Sub-Committee.  
G.C. De Baerdemaecker, 110 Woodwarde Road SE22, 693 4017, purchasing officer, Chairman of Local History Sub-Committee.  
Miss G.M.Pye-Smith, MA, 9 Breakspeare, 94 College Road SE21, 693 8341, Chairman of Wild Life Sub-Committee.  
C.R.Seaton, 63 Court Lane SE21, 693 5332, lawyer, Chairman of Traffic Sub-Committee.  
Mrs K.M.Evans, MA, 22 Dulwich Village SE21, 693 3522, school governor, Chairman of Social Sub-Committee.  
Lt-Col R.M.S.Maude, BA, 19 Oakfield Gardens, Dulwich Wood Avenue SE19, 670 7963, Chairman of Membership and Publicity Sub-Committee.  
Rodney Emmott, 47 Lings Coppice SE21, 761 0388, lawyer.  
John Cran, 28 Dulwich Wood Avenue SE19, 670 4105, Press Officer.

MEMBERS OF SUB-COMMITTEES

LEGAL: Chairman: Geoffrey Hall Clark, 23 Gilkes Crescent SE21 7BP, 693 3003. Members:  
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B.St.J.C.Carr, 8 Burbage Rd SE24, 733 9055,  
M.V.Carey, MA, 2 Frank Dixon Way SE21.

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S.Rhodes, OBE, LL B, 9 Hitherwood Drive SE19, 670 7520,  
M.Rich, MA, 18 Dulwich Village SE21, 693 1957,  
P.Rutteman, B SC, ACA, 37 Woodhall Drive SE21, 693 7543,  
B.Smith, 60 Crofton Rd SE5,  
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G.Crabtree, 197 Half Moon Lane SE24, 733 2081,  
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Mrs S.M.Low, 14 Acacia Grove SE21, 670 1609,  
Mrs M.Westwood, 13 Tarleton Gardens SE23, 699 0820,  
G.C. De Baerdemaecker, 110 Woodwarde Rd SE21, 693 4017,  
Miss R.W.Davis, 118 College Rd SE21, 670 3011,  
Mrs E.Blackburn, 14 Woodsyre SE26, 670 5212,  
Mrs E.Todd, 15 Eastlands Crescent SE21, 693 6239,  
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Miss T.I.Leiper, 39 Stonehills Court, College Rd SE21,  
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Mr & Mrs P.J.Brown, 97 Pymers Mead SE21, 670 4344,  
Mr & Mrs R.C.Low, 14 Acacia Grove SE21, 670 1609,  
Miss J.Webster, 6 Carters Croft, Red Post Hill SE24, 274 1430,  
Miss P.Hackett, 14 Gilkes Crescent SE21, 693 6843,  
Mrs W.Darby and Mr P.Darby, 91 South Croxted Rd SE21, 670 2838,  
Mrs G.C. De Baerdemaecker, 110 Woodwarde Rd SE22.

WILD LIFE: Chairman: Miss G.M.Pye-Smith, 9 Breakspeare SE21, 693 8341,  
Secretary: G.C. De Baerdemaecker, 110 Woodwarde Rd SE22, 693 4017. Members:  
Dr B.H.Pentney, 88 College Rd SE21, 693 1441,  
Mrs L.Martin, 122 Woodwarde Rd SE22, 693 2907,  
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B.Jones, 16 Mount Adon Park SE22, 693 3698,  
B.Banson, Alleyn's School, Townley Rd SE22,  
Miss R.W.Davis, 118 College Rd SE21, 670 3011,  
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G.R.C.Fairlie, The Grange, Grange Lane SE21, 693 1187,  
D.V.Freshwater, 24 Dulwich Village SE21, 693 1666,  
Mrs G.C. De Baerdemaecker, 110 Woodwarde Rd SE22.

MEMBERSHIP AND PUBLICITY: Chairman: R.M.S.Maude, 19 Oakfield Gardens, Dulwich Wood Avenue SE19, 670 7963. Members:  
John Westwood, MSIA, 13 Tarleton Gardens SE23, 699 0820,  
Mrs S.M.Low, 14 Acacia Grove SE21, 670 1609,  
Miss E.Edmondson, 26 Knoll Court SE19, 670 9758,  
Dr & Mrs John Crammer, 21 Eastlands Crescent SE21, 693 5578,  
Miss Ann Lee, 7 Court Lane SE21, 693 3174,  
John Cran, Press Officer, 28 Dulwich Wood Avenue SE19, 670 4105.

DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM. For distribution of Newsletters and other material the area is divided into eight zones, each controlled by a zone organiser.

Zone A: Mrs Peter Lawson, 41 Village Way SE21, 733 2646. Aysgarth Rd, Burbage Rd, Carver Rd, Dulwich Village, Half Moon Lane, Pickwick Rd, Roseway, Turney Rd, Village Way, Stradella Rd, Ruskin Walk, Winterbrook Rd.

Zone B: Mrs J.E.Taylor, 51 Townley Rd SE22, 693 3674. Calton Avenue, Dekker Rd, Desenfans Rd, Dovercourt Rd, Druce Rd, Gilkes Crescent, Great Spilmans, Red Post Hill, Townley Rd, Woodwarde Rd, Denmark Hill.

Zone C: Mr J.D.Thomson, 122 Thurlow Park Rd SE21, 670 3412. Allison Grove, Court Lane, Court Lane Gardens, Dulwich Common, Eastlands Crescent, Frank Dixon Close and Way, Rycotes Mead, Thurlow Park Rd, Eynella Rd, Lordship Lane.

Zone D: Mrs S.M.Low, 14 Acacia Grove SE21, 670 1609. Acacia Grove, Croxted Rd, Lings Coppice, Lovelace Rd, Pymers Mead, Rosendale Rd, Walkerscroft Mead, Carson Rd, Ildersley Grove, Park Hall Rd.

Zone E1: Miss M.P.Lemmon, 6 Pond Cottages, College Rd SE21, 693 3141. College Rd, Breakspeare, College Gardens, Constable Walk, Ferrings, Gainsborough Court, Hitherwood Drive & Court, Stonehills Court, Pond Cottages, Tollgate Drive, Woodhall Avenue & Drive, Fountain Drive, Hogarth Court, Great Brownings.

Zone E2: Mr C.C. Phillips, 6 Crescent Wood Rd, SE26, 693 5023. Crescent Wood Rd, Peckarmans Wood, Sydenham Hill (1-110), Rock Hill, Crouchmans Close, Woodsyre.

Zone F: Mrs R.M.S.Maude, 19 Oakfield Gardens, Dulwich Wood Avenue SE19, 670 7963. Alleyn Crescent, Alleyn Park, Alleyn Rd, Baird Gardens, Farquhar Rd; Knoll, Lowood & Glenhurst Courts; Little Bornes; Lymer Avenue, Grenville, Raleigh, Marlowe Courts; Oakfield Gardens, Rouse Gardens, Linley & Whitfield Courts, South Croxted Rd, Tylney Avenue, Drake Court, Dulwich Wood Park, Giles Coppice, Kingswood Drive, Rockwell Gardens.

Zone G: Mr J.Westwood, 13 Tarleton Gardens SE23, 699 0820. Little Brownings, Sydenham Hill (111 upwards), Sydenham Rise, Frobisher Court, Tarleton Gardens, London Rd, Thorpewood Avenue.

Postal: Mrs E.T.Nash, 30 Dekker Rd SE21.

## WILD LIFE

### VISIT TO DUNGENESS

11 May was a sunny though windy Saturday when a full minibus driven by Mr De Baerdemaecker made the trip to the huge shingle wasteland of Dungeness, the tip of which the nuclear power station dominates. Nets had been put out when we arrived at the headquarters of the area known as the Bird Observatory. These are regularly visited every half hour by the keeper but, owing to the wind, only two birds, a garden warbler and a willow warbler, flew into them during our visit. It was interesting to see these ringed and set free, however, and Mr Riddiford kindly answered our questions and told us about the Observatory's studies on bird migration. Unfortunately, very few other birds were to be seen, even in the sallow copses nearby, apart from the harmfully numerous gulls, and terns which packed the surface of a small island in the lake. Here there were also two great crested grebes. In spite of the dearth of birds, however, the trip seems to have been enjoyed as an outing and the Kent countryside was looking its best in its spring foliage of greens and gold.

The Committee has a short list of names of members who would be interested in another birdwatching expedition in the autumn. Mr Banson, of the Wild Life Committee, has kindly offered to lead such a party to the Isle of Sheppey, North Kent, on Sunday 29 September. So will those keen birdwatchers who would be prepared for a walk on easy ground of three or so miles across the marshes in possibly chilly weather let Miss Pye-Smith know as soon as possible so that more detailed plans may be made according to numbers. It will be essential to use binoculars on the marshes. The cost will be about £1.

### THE LIVESSEY MUSEUM

The Committee wishes to respond to the appeal given at the Society's meeting on 2 May by Miss Slaney, Keeper of the new Livesey Museum at 682 Old Kent Road, for contributions relating to wild life in Dulwich, to the natural history exhibition which the museum is putting on in the autumn. Photographs, including transparencies, will be copied and returned to their owners in two or three days.

Please get in touch with a member of the Wild Life Committee or directly with Miss Slaney at the museum (639 5604) if you can help with any material. Actual specimens would of course be welcome too.

## FOXES

Are there too many foxes in Dulwich? The Committee would welcome the views of members on this subject; also details of time, place and nature of any damage or real inconvenience caused by them. It seems that the time may be coming when someone in authority will want to reduce the number of foxes and we need evidence as to what they are really doing.

## LOCAL COUNCIL HAS A HEART

The following is an extract from the local press last April:

BABY BIRDS SAVED FROM AXE-MEN. Fledgeling crows were saved from probable death yesterday when GLC workmen were ordered to halt the felling of an elm tree at the Herne Hill cycle track.

The crows were in a nest in the tree which had been condemned because it had dutch elm disease. When David Smart, who can see the tree from his back garden at 5 Roseway, Dulwich, spotted the workmen preparing to fell the tree he phoned the GLC parks department, who agreed the tree could stand until the fledgeling crows had flown away.

Said a GLC spokesman, 'Usually we move nests to a safe place but in this case we decided to reprieve the tree itself for about three weeks'.

## TREES

### 'TREES WALK'

'..... after all,' as someone said at the Sub-Committee meeting, 'the "Local History" folk have a tour of the district, and the "Wild Life" have a trip to a bird reserve, so why shouldn't the "Trees" people wander round the trees?'

Thus it was that the germ of an idea came to full fruition on Saturday 8 June when a party of well over forty members and friends met in the car park at Belair and were 'guided and instructed' around the grounds, and subsequently through Love Walk and the Gallery gardens.

Few of us realised what a variety of trees grow in this area: well over forty species were positively identified, and the wealth of information provided by our co-instructors Miss R. Davis and Mr Tony Welwig made the walk extremely interesting. It was also very satisfying to see and hear how many of those present were able to contribute various comments of technical, historical

and humorous note. Did you know, for example, that before the last war bananas were grown in the glass-houses at Belair? But how about native fruit trees: well, we discovered almond, cherry, sweet chestnut, fig, pear, walnut, and the increasingly rare medlar.

Specimens of seldom-seen trees were pointed out to us: the cork oak, catalpa and metasequoia to name a few.

We were reminded, too, of the use to which some of these trees are put as timber: the chestnut for fencing and certain types of farm implements, the ash for tool handles, the crack willow for cricket bats; and we learnt that the walnut is considered to be one of the finest woods for making veneers for furniture: surprisingly an inch thickness of this timber provides up to 40 veneers.

It was sad to see the effect of the dutch elm disease which has been so rampant up and down the country for some years. We were told that well over two hundred affected trees had already been felled in Dulwich apart from those which had been treated by the injection of chemical fungicides. There is unfortunately little doubt that many more elms will have to be cut down before the disease is checked.

Despite the overcast and chilly conditions the two-hour tour seemed to pass very quickly and we are grateful to those who had obviously done so much preparation before taking the party around. The twenty-eight of us who stayed on to take tea at Belair (kindly organised by Mrs Evans) found this to be an excellent way to conclude a very enjoyable outdoor afternoon.

### DAMAGE TO TREES IN THE WINTER GALES

Mr Barnard wrote to the Borough Planning Office recently about damage to trees in Calton Avenue. A prompt reply was received, stating that damage was partly due to a virus infection which may occur in other trees in Calton Avenue, and that a programme of selective removal and replacement was planned for the next planting season, starting in November this year.

## LEGAL FUND FINAL ACCOUNT

During the past four years members have been asked from time to time to subscribe towards a fund designed to meet any possible expense in the Society's legal representation before the High Court when the Scheme of Management was the subject of a legal application under the Leasehold Reform Act 1967. This fund has now been closed and the final account is as follows:

### INCOME

Contributions 1970	£171.10	
1971	£153.80	
1972	£75.20	
1973	£18.00	
1974	£2.00	£420.10
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Interest on above		£80.72
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Total		£500.82

### EXPENSES

For secretarial services, distribution of papers etc.	£744.25
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Deficit taken from reserves	£243.43

Copies of letters exchanged between the Chairman and Geoffrey Hall Clark, Chairman of the Legal Sub-Committee, are printed below for the information of members.

From the Chairman Sir Frederick Everson, KCMG,  
8 Gainsborough Court, College Road,  
Dulwich SE21 7LT. 15 April 1974

My dear Geoffrey,  
The Executive Committee decided at its last meeting that I should express to you and the members who have served on the Legal Sub-Committee the most grateful thanks of the Society for the work which you undertook to secure the adoption of a Scheme of Management under the Leasehold Reform Act 1967, which is eminently satisfactory to our members.

I recall that this work, now at last concluded, began with the passing of the Act. You and your Committee recommended that the Society should be represented at the hearing held by the Minister's inspector at Kingswood

and you personally attended the hearing to support the Governors' application for a scheme. When the Minister gave his approval and the Governors consulted the Society you and your Committee prepared a draft of the principles which the scheme should embody and this document was sent as a letter from our then Chairman to the Governors. The Governors' draft scheme, which they sent to us, drew substantially on the Society's suggestions. It was debated by your Committee, solicitors were instructed and counsel briefed. Amendments were propounded and, with the approval of our Executive Committee and of our members in meetings assembled, were put to the Governors' legal representatives. After a long series of representations the amended scheme, recommended by your Committee, was approved nem con by a meeting of members and others who had authorised the Society to represent them. This meeting decided unananimously that the amended scheme should be supported in Court. Counsel for the Society was briefed to do so and the scheme was approved with one or two further amendments acceptable to us.

This long process of discussion, drafting and negotiation involved you and the Legal Sub-Committee in a great deal of work spread over some five years. The Society was fortunate (as usual) in finding among its members several who were willing to give freely of their time and professional expertise for the benefit of Dulwich. We are greatly indebted to them and I ask you to convey the expression of the Society's gratitude to them all.

You constituted yourself the focus of this arduous task and pursued the interests of our members in this matter with unflagging zeal, salted with a judicious and sometimes necessary grain of wit. As Chairman I was particularly conscious of my dependence on your high competence and of the debt which the Society owes you for your leadership and skill.

I hope that with these thanks you will enjoy the recompense of seeing the amenities of Dulwich preserved.

It is intended to publish this letter in the Society's Newsletter.

Yours sincerely,

Frederick Everson

Geoffrey Hall Clark Esq  
23 Gilkes Crescent, Dulwich.

23 Gilkes Crescent, Dulwich Village,  
London SE21 7BP. 23 April 1974

Sir Frederick Everson, KCMG,  
8 Gainsborough Court, College Road,  
Dulwich, London SE21 7LT.

Dear Sir Frederick,

I very much appreciated your kind words in your letter to me of the 15th April, although I am afraid many of your remarks were greatly exaggerated.

I may say that far from being the arduous task which you mentioned I found the whole operation to be most interesting and I was of course particularly gratified that the end result was so near the original wishes of the Society.

I am sure that if the Management Scheme is operated fairly, then the amenities of Dulwich will be protected, particularly if the Estates Governors accept their obligation to give information concerning the whole estate.

I made some very good friends on the Committee and incidentally I learned a great deal about the 1967 Act which has been a great help to me in the office.

This was a joint venture and a great deal of work was carried out by Geoffrey Grant, Michael Konstam and of course the late Lindsey Barker, who undoubtedly did more than all of us.

The other new Members came in right at the end, but I am sure that they would have given equal help and I shall as requested let the other Members have a copy of your letter.

I hope that before long we shall have another matter of interest to delve into.

Yours sincerely,

G. Hall Clark