

The Dulwich Society

Minutes of the 163rd meeting of the Local History Sub-Committee: 21 March 2023.

Present: Ian McInnes (Chair), Sharon O'Connor (host), Julia Atkins, Duncan Bowie, Gavin Bowyer, Steve Hicks, David Natzler, Kenneth Wolfe.

Apologies: Patrick Darby, Brian Green, Bernard Nurse.

Minutes of the meeting on 13 December 2022 were approved.

- 1. Matters arising:** Duncan has written a supporting statement for a Southwark blue plaque for social radical John Morrison Davidson.
- 2. Sub-committee members: notification of interests:** none notified.
- 3. Enquiries received:** see below.
- 4. Talks, walks, Dulwich Festival:** Zoom talks: April is Julia on the gentrification of East Dulwich and May is Brian on Dulwich spies, then we'll take a break for the summer. Duncan offered a talk on inter and post war Labour politicians. Dulwich Festival: Ian is doing two walks on Georgian Dulwich. Duncan is doing three walks on Dulwich Social Reformers (East, West and the Village).
- 5. Journal articles, forthcoming publications:** Brian retired as editor in March, Ian and Claire Richards have taken over as joint editors. Local history articles in the pipeline: Ian on the Redapples; Duncan on Ritchie Calder and Havelock Ellis. Sharon on the Wood family of artists, Southwark 2023 blue plaque nominees, Brightlands and Arthur Ewins. A new 1806 map has been published on our website.
- 6. Members' research/outcomes of current research:** Patrick has delivered the final court rolls to the webmaster and continues to work on other manorial material. Gavin is researching Anthony Highmore, a lawyer, and legal author, and Thomas Griffith of Court Farm.
- 7. BALH request for help:** Joe Saunders, head of the British Association for Local History outreach, asked if we would show their members how we do local history. Gavin agreed to write on his Friern Manor research and Sharon on how we do our social media. If anyone has other ideas please let Sharon know. We agreed to join the BALH as a group [later we found that this is £75 pa so Sharon will circulate the journals she receives via her individual membership].
- 8. Information boards:** we are waiting for Southwark to approve the Dulwich Library board. The St Peter's Dulwich Battalion board needs better images. The Tollgate board will be refixed. Audio post: Brian is writing a script and getting it recorded.
- 9. Dulwich People:** we need images of Dulwich People and Places for the website. Lists will be circulated (attached): if anyone has any, please send them to Sharon.
- 10. Digitising:** we agreed to Patrick's proposal to digitise some leases; the College Archive will pay half. We discussed whether we should get any of our own images (postcards etc) digitised but we will await the outcome of item 9 before deciding.
- 11. Any other business:** Kenneth brought a tiny model dairy cart of an Austin's Dairy cart to show the group following the enquiry about East Dulwich dairies. Sharon will speak to the College Archives about a visit during the summer holidays. David proposed an Alastair Hanton blue plaque.
- 12. Meeting dates:** 13 June at Duncan's, 5 September, 12 December. 2023: 12 March, 11 June

List of enquiries received since last meeting

- Harris Primary would like talks/walks on East Dulwich local history
- Was 149 Half Moon Lane Glenshee School? Yes, the school had this site & Dulwich Lodge opposite
- 122 Woodward Rd – Patrick has some interesting images, possibly of residents
- Esther Bensusan Pissarro where did she live - Marion Terrace, Cemetery Rd (now Park Hall Rd)
- Elsie Widdowson blue plaque nomination: info for Southwark News
- Joan Woodward for Woodward Rd's street party celebrating her
- Harold Percy Fisher in West Dulwich
- Hilda Glyder music hall singer
- 240 Railton Rd for the HHS
- Mr Hordern at Toksowa
- Info about 256 Lordship Lane and various Dulwich Village old postcards
- Henry Maitland Wilson at school in East Dulwich
- WJ Griffin, tea dealer, at 3 Croxted Rd – we could find no record
- Y Block by Dr Anthony Lynch – book about being a nursing assistant at St Francis Hospital
- 46 & 48 Melford Rd: who was the builder, any info on Ruth Watson
- Stanley Arthur of 13 Gilkes Crescent, any info available (actually 14 Gilkes) no info found
- Francis Nichols, grocer in Dulwich village 1861-71 – is his shop still there – answer yes, it's Rocca.
- Following up on lady born in Dulwich in the early 1930s who went round Dulwich Park with Queen Mary