

## *Feltham History Group*

March 2015 meeting held at Christ Church Hanworth Road Feltham (Ruffle Room)

The March meeting of Feltham History Group held at Christ Church Feltham was a varied and lively affair and at which we were particularly honoured with the presence of Feltham's new Vicar Reverenced Anne Dollery

The Chairman welcomed members and informed them of a donation to the group from the Rotary Club of Feltham

Hounslow's Local Studies Officer James Marshall gave a 'supplemental' to his Bombing of Feltham in WW11. James had received, what can only be described as a Chief Warden's report on the number of 'incidents' covering a period from 1940/41. The Log was very descriptive giving details of roads and properties and indeed casualties. It gives details of the times, dates, bomb types and weights, property damage and casualties. There are some map references too (unfortunately the map is missing)).

One such raid accounted for a great number of deaths; the explosive that hit The Close at Hanworth being the most lethal. The Secretary produced a copy of the relevant page from Feltham Burial Register of the time which showed further detail of those who lost there lives.

The Log came from Mrs Julie French who came across it in a second hand book shop some years ago. The log now forms part of the collection at Hounslow Local Studies Collection Hounslow Library.



The Secretary continued with further detail of Arthur Ernest Etoo; whom it was hoped would be commemorated via a CWGC Headstone at Feltham Cemetery. The Secretary confirmed that an application has been made [to him] from The Commonwealth War Graves Commission for the headstone to be erected – the date for its erection has yet to be decided upon. Further correspondence from the family in Ireland in which thanks were expressed and an image was provided 'image'

Andi Barnes gave an update on the Listed Building survey that members were undertaking for and on behalf of Hounslow Council and English Heritage. Andi continued with detail of Feltham Peoples Centre (Feltham Hotel) enquiry.

The Chairman spoke of a plan put forward by Hounslow Council and their 'partners' concerning what is termed as Feltham Vision and Concept plan which covered many of the constituent parts of Feltham including Hanworth Park

House. Members may be a little more than surprised as to this “vision and concept” as we only, in 2004, had a ‘vision’ for Feltham and similar was the case in 1963/4 it would seem that Feltham is an experimental Town!

Member Chris Hearne appraised members of the Dukes River project [Duke of Northumberland] at Isleworth. The project is to make better public access to the stretch from its split near The Stoop Twickenham to where it empties into the Thames at Isleworth riverside. Chris earnestly implored members to become involved.

The Chairman alerted members of the AGM that is to be held at the April meeting where the Treasurer will accept subscriptions for the coming year

In AOB there were various items including the ‘Railway Crossing’ ‘Hanworth Park House’ and the ‘MOD ‘estate’ which was of some concern, although it was noted as being ‘on hold’ -more on this next time.

The short talk, which was a change from the ‘expected’ was given by the Secretary, in due honour of the presence of Feltham’s new Vicar Rev Anne Dollery and it was entitled Feltham’s Minsters of Religion.

The talk provided information as to who Dunstan was and the incumbents of the benefice beginning with the first Vicar Peter de Whyte in 1322 to present day.

The Secretary however mentioned an account some eleven years earlier (1311) which tells of an inquisition by John de Diction who was sent by the chapter of St Pauls (London) on the “feast of St Luke the evangelist” to check the value of the Rectory and the Vicarage and the Tithes of Corn and Hay of Sunbury by the Vicar of Feltham and others

The Chairman closed the meeting thanking members for the attendance

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