



## Issue No. 36 Summer 2017

**W**e were delighted to see the sensitive and skilful restoration work carried out at 7 Hammersmith Terrace, the former home of Sir Emery Walker. We would recommend that members visit this temple to the arts and crafts movement.

We are also pleased to learn that the Fulham Palace Trust is within sight of reaching the target to match fund the grant received from the Heritage Lottery Fund. Readers will find details of the proposed works in the last Newsletter. The group has pledged a donation.

On page 4 Adam O'Neill sets out the current position concerning new listings in the Borough and the disturbing news that three of the Borough's listed buildings have been added to the Heritage at Risk register.

It seems that the cliché for this edition's planning notes is *the sky's the limit*, with developers and planners striving for greater supremacy over the sky around us. Whilst the Group is not opposed to tall building as a concept per se, our concern has always been their relationship to the existing historic environment. The Council in their Core Strategy have designated areas where tall building would be acceptable but currently no height limits have been set.

We are about to be swamped by a plague of advertising units disguised as phone installations, see Planning matters on page 7.

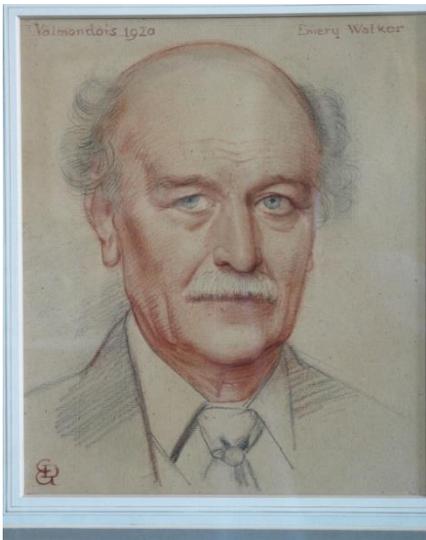
*Nicolas Fernley, Chairman*

*Below The refurbished dining room in Emery Walker's House at 7 Hammersmith Terrace.*



## EMERY WALKER'S HOUSE

The best preserved Arts & Crafts home in Britain reopened in Hammersmith on 20<sup>th</sup> April after an 18 month closure for vital repair work.



Emery Walker's House at 7 Hammersmith Terrace, London, was the home of one of the key members of The Arts & Crafts Movement, a close friend of William Morris and father of the Private Press movement.

The contents of Sir Emery Walker's riverside home in West London – over 4,000 items - were removed for cataloguing and conservation. This allowed vital repair work, including restoring the original hand-blocked wallpapers and replacement of the roof to be carried out, creating a safer environment for the house's remarkable collection. The project has been supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund through [www.artsandcraftshammersmith.org.uk](http://www.artsandcraftshammersmith.org.uk), a joint initiative with The William Morris Society, for which match funding has been found from charitable trusts and individual donations.



*This Wedgwood Cotswold charger features Walker's second home, Daneway painted by Alfred and Louise Powell*

The collection has now been returned to this atmospheric time capsule which is packed with Arts & Crafts treasures, including one of the largest in situ collections of Morris & Co wallpapers in the world and outstanding

textiles and embroideries. Amongst Walker's many possessions are items which were created especially for, or given to him by his close friends and colleagues; leading artists of their day.

These include Morris's 17th century Library chair, Philip Webb furniture and glass, ceramics by William de Morgan and a Burne-Jones pencil portrait of May Morris, his neighbour at number 8. Other, very personal possessions include a lock of Morris's hair, snipped off on his deathbed, and a mould of Philip Webb's ears. This multi-layered and eclectic mix of belongings, all with their own fascinating and personal pedigree, makes for a unique house museum, perfectly embodying the Arts & Crafts aesthetic.



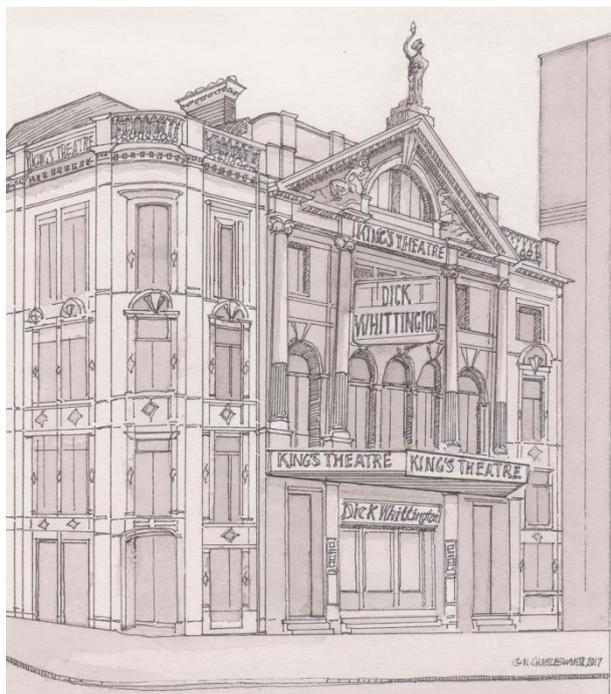
*The "Morris Drawer": William Morris's pens, spectacles a piece of wooden Kelmscott type and, a cutting of his hair.*

Extended opening hours means visitors can now step back in time on Thursdays and Saturdays when there will be three tours a day. These must be pre-booked online, as the size and fragile interiors of this Georgian terraced house makes it possible for only eight visitors to enter at a time. Visitors are accompanied by an expert guide and steward, making it a unique and intimate experience with a new exhibition space offering the chance for visitors to get close to and even handle some of the objects in the collection. The tour season has been extended until 25 November and has launched a new website to include more information on the house, its inhabitants and history - [www.emerywalker.org.uk](http://www.emerywalker.org.uk). The website includes new photography and sections on the surrounding area, the wallpaper collection, and Emery Walker's life and legacy. Later on this year, the digitised archive of the Walker family's papers will be available to view online. The Hammersmith Historic Buildings Group have been credited for helping to fund this project on the supporters' page - <http://www.emerywalker.org.uk/supporters>.

*Lucinda MacPherson*

## LOST THEATRE: KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH

Hammersmith and Fulham once had six theatres: the Shepherd's Bush Empire, featured in Newsletter 33, The Granville in Newsletter 34, the Palace of Varieties, featured in the last Newsletter 35, The Fulham Grand, the original Hammersmith Lyric and the King's.



*King's Theatre Exterior, 1902. Nick Charlesworth has kindly supplied this drawing of the King's Theatre just before its demolition in 1963. His book 'Variety at Night is Good for You' features 92 variety theatres still standing in the 1930s and 1940s, including three featured in previous Newsletters.*

The King's in Hammersmith Road was designed by W G R Sprague, a prolific theatre architect, for the impresario J B Mulholland. The venue remained under the control of the Mulholland family for almost fifty years. It opened on 26 December 1902 with *Cinderella* and was subsequently renowned for its traditional pantomimes. *Cinderella* was played in 1952 to celebrate its Golden Jubilee.

W G R Sprague designed a number of London theatres but the King's was the first to have cantilevered balconies which meant there were no columns to interrupt views of the stage.

The King's had a capacity of 3,000 and was a touring venue for the top West End and national tours. It claimed that every star name in British Theatre had, at some time or another, performed there. The roll call included great Edwardian actors, including Herbert Beerbohm Tree, John Martin Harvey, Marie Tempest and Mrs Patrick Campbell. Alec Guinness made his stage debut at the King's in 1933; Harold Pinter made his debut with the

Donald Wolfitt company in their 1953-54 season, which became legendary for its scope and excitement.



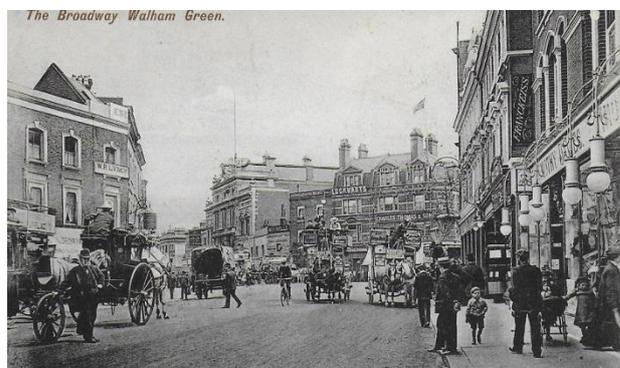
*King's Theatre interior, circa 1910*

However, by 1955, suffering heavily from the nationwide collapse in theatre audiences due to the introduction of television, it was taken over by the BBC and was known as King's Studio. 10 episodes of the *Goon Show* were recorded here and Jack Benny's British TV debut. Television use ceased in the early 60s and the theatre was put up for sale. It was demolished in 1963.

The Group is delighted that the theatre is now commemorated by one of its plaques.

*Angela Dixon*

## POSTCARD FROM THE PAST



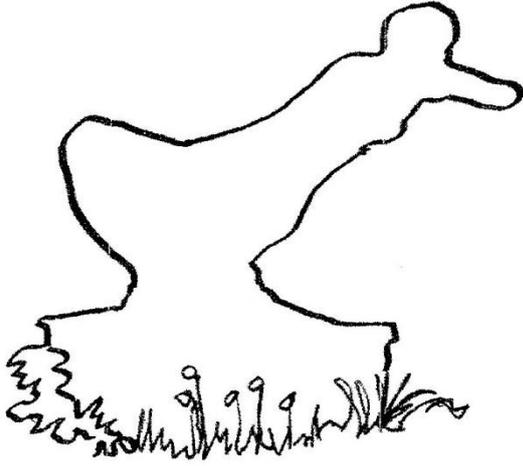
*An early 20th century postcard of the village of Walham Green, now better known as Fulham Broadway.*

The wide road was known as Walham Green Broadway. In 1952 Walham Green Station was renamed Fulham Broadway, as local businesses felt that the name sounded too rural for a shopping centre. Depicted is Fulham Town Hall, and Lockhart's Cocoa Rooms which were established as teetotal meeting places as an alternative to the public house. On the left are hansom cabs and Lemmons, a jeweller's shop which was there until recent years. On the right are the Swan pub and Timothy Davies draper's shop. He became Mayor in 1901 and Liberal MP for Fulham 1906-1910.

*Keith Whitehouse*

## HERITAGE AT RISK

Last autumn Historic England published their 2016 Heritage at Risk Register which featured six listed buildings, five listed funerary monuments and one listed statue in the Borough. The new additions to the Register are the Church of St Stephen and St Thomas, Uxbridge Road; the statue of the Draped Woman dating from 1959 on the Great West Road near St Peter's Church, Hammersmith and the tomb of the gold prospector Abraham Smith in Margravine Cemetery.



*Outline of The Draped woman*

Recently there has been a burst of activity as the Council, Historic England and local amenity groups have successfully worked together to help secure tens of thousands of pounds of grant funding to progress restoration schemes. At St Mary's Cemetery, Harrow Road major works funded by Historic England are well under way at the Campbell mausoleum to repair its Byzantine style interior, said to be inspired by the interior of Westminster RC Cathedral, and address urgent issues of plant and water ingress. The Campbell mausoleum was also recently upgraded to Grade II\* listed status by Historic England, making it one of the most significant funerary monuments in the country. Investigatory works funded by Historic England have begun at the Grade II listed Conde de Bayona Marques de Misa mausoleum and will inform its restoration later this year which will be grant funded by Historic England, the Pilgrim Trust, Heritage of London Trust and a £1,000 donation from the HFHBG.

At Margravine Cemetery, Historic England has funded a condition survey of the Grade II listed Frederick Harold Young mausoleum and the Friends of Margravine Cemetery, and the Council are now exploring a Heritage Lottery Fund bid which could help fund repair works to buildings and monuments. Early discussions are taking place into the funding of a condition survey of the statue



*Mortuary chapel of Conde de Bayona Marques de Misa*

of the Draped Woman, which will assist future fund raising activity for repairs. In addition, the long running case at 34 Black Lion Lane has been resolved as refurbishment work to the building has been completed and it is now ready to come off the Register.

There is one Conservation Area on the Register: St Mary's, where restoration works are now underway to address the condition of two of the funerary monuments which form an important part of its significance.

*Adam O'Neill, Principal Urban Design and Conservation Officer, LB of Hammersmith & Fulham.*

## COLLECTORS' CORNER

Eagle House School was established at Brook Green in 1820. It moved to Wimbledon in 1860, then in 1886 to Sandhurst. It is one of the oldest prep schools in the country. In 1968 it was purchased by Wellington College. Eagle House itself was demolished in the late 19th century. The two eagles that stood on the entrance gate piers can still be seen on the parapet of Eagle Terrace on the corner of Shepherd's Bush Road and Brook Green. John Whichelo was a drawing master at the school as well as others in the London area. He was a painter noted for his marine views and was, at one time,



*A silver drawing prize, in the shape of an artist's palette,*

marine painter to King George IV. He died in Hammersmith at the age of 80. These silver drawing prizes, in the shape of an artist's palette, were presented to pupils in the early 1840s. Several of the palettes have been recorded for schools in Barnes, Hammersmith, Islington, Norwood and Wimbledon.

Keith Whitehouse

## READER'S LETTER



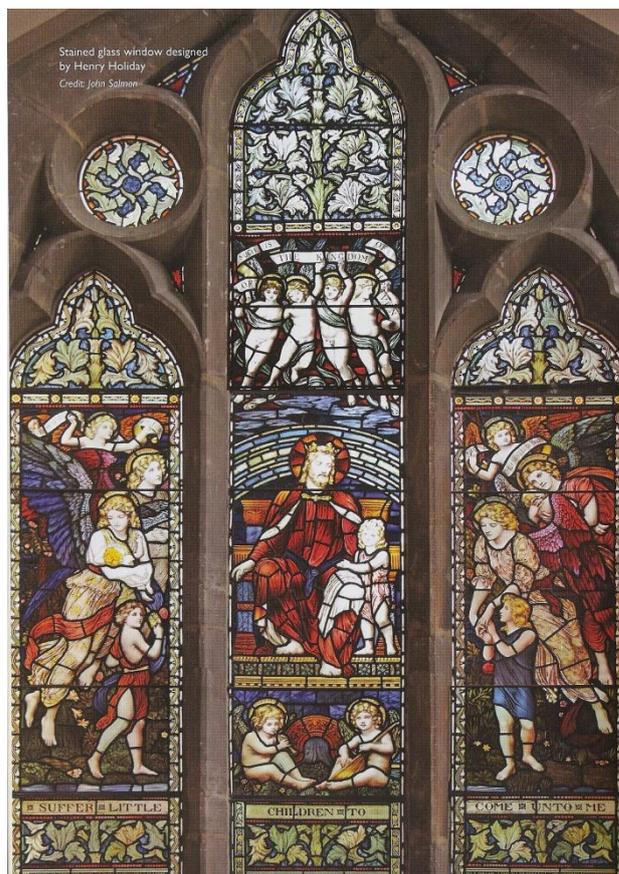
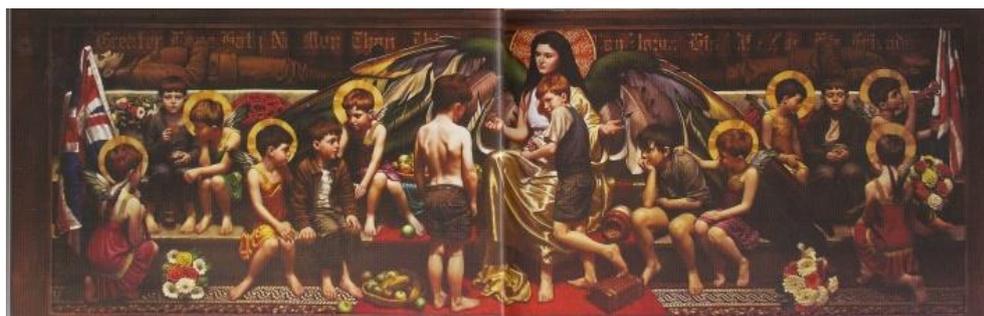
Walking around Shepherd's Bush, I find it sad that there is no formal recognition of the famous Lime Grove Studios film studio, on the street of the same name. It was the first custom-built studio in Britain, and operated from 1915 to 1949, firstly owned by Gaumont British, and subsequently Gainsborough Pictures. Alfred Hitchcock made early films such as *The 39 Steps* here. It was arguably most prolific during the Second World War, when Gainsborough turned out a series of costume melodramas such as *The Wicked Lady* and *The Man in Grey*, making stars of Margaret Lockwood, James Mason, Phyllis Calvert and Stewart Granger. The films broke box-office records, but the studio ran into trouble after the war, and closed its doors in 1949, whereupon the BBC took it over, before they disposed of it in 1991 and it was demolished. Two housing developments on the site provide a small clue as to its illustrious history: one called Gaumont Terrace, and the other named Gainsborough Court. I note that the BBC have put up a plaque commemorating their television studios on the site, but it does not mention that it was used for feature films. Perhaps this is something we can rectify with our own plaque marking the site's unique contribution to British cinema?

Yours,

Theo Morgan

## THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS

During 2016 The Church of the Holy Innocents (at Paddenswick Road, Hammersmith W6 0AB) celebrated its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This very large



*Suffer the Little Children*

red brick and stone building was designed by James Brook (1825-1901), the distinguished architect of the Anglo-Catholic Revival.

Although it does not look particularly beautiful from the outside, it was described as “a fine example of simple and solid work, providing its effect by massive construction and picturesque outlining and grouping without any adventitious aid from decorative detail”. It could accommodate 1200 people.

The Reverend Henry Cullen Eden was responsible for raising the funds to build the church and he was its first vicar. The foundation stone was laid on 20 July 1889, and the first part of the church was opened for services on 25 September 1890. The west end was completed in 1903. Some notable features include a three light window depicting *Suffer the Little Children* designed by Henry Holiday (1839-1927), who also designed the four lancets

depicting the apostles. Seven memorial windows on the north side of the church were designed by Mayer of Munich, and one by

*The Hayes Afflick panel “The Holy Innocents”.*

Percy Brown of London. The ornate baldacchino by the Reverend Ernest Geldart surmounts a modern altar frontal painted by Liverpool artist John Afflick. There are several other interesting features, the origins of which are not presently known.

The congregation numbers began to decline even in Father Eden's time, and in 1990, when the Reverend Murray Grant was vicar, extensive re-ordering took place to make the building into a space more suited to the needs of the parish, without losing its original features.

In October 2016, a booklet was produced to give an overview of the history of Holy Innocents Church. Entitled *A Brief History*, it has been compiled by Stella Griffiths, the Honorary Archivist, from documents found in various cupboards around the building. It can be obtained from the church office. The cost is £5 (plus postage if needed). Visitors to the church are welcome (by prior arrangement).

*Stella Griffiths (Hon Archivist)*  
[administrator@hisj.co.uk](mailto:administrator@hisj.co.uk) Tel: 020 8748 2286

## PLANNING MATTERS

The group continue to respond to planning applications that may have an impact upon our historic assets. A summary of recent applications the Group has responded to in recent months and an update on earlier ones follows.

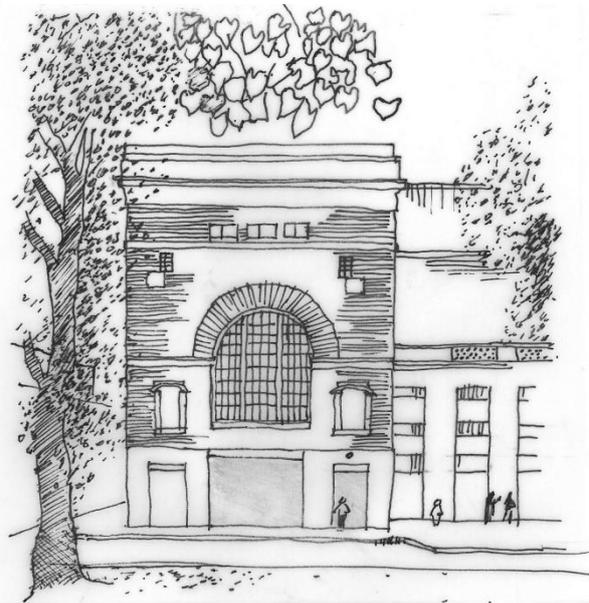
**North Kensington Gate** The OPDC (Old Oak Park Royal Development Corporation who are the authority responsible for the planning of this redevelopment area) has given permission for a 22 storey tower at the entrance to the Old Park Common redevelopment area, despite the fact that it appears to exceed prescribed limits of height and density. The group raised concerns about its impact upon the adjoining listed St Mary's Cemetery, Harrow Road which contains several listed monuments. The HBG are concerned that the OPDC are now also responsible for the Canal Conservation Area.

**Landmark House** (pictured on p9 of NL35) Since our last edition, following representation from the HBG, Hammersmith Society, and other groups opposed the height of proposed hotel block, amended proposals have now been submitted to the Council. The essence of these has been to reduce the potential 28 storey block to 22 storeys. Whilst this reduction is welcome, the downside is that this has been achieved by increasing the width of all three blocks. The HBG's concerns continue to be about its impact on the surrounding listed buildings particularly St Paul's Church, Angel Walk and Hammersmith Bridge, and on the Riverside when viewed from the

Surrey bank. The group's views have been passed to the Council.

**Clement Attlee Estate, Fulham** Whilst not in a conservation Area plans have been submitted to demolish the existing 16 storey Edith Summerskill House in Lillie Road, and replace it with a twenty storey block of apartments.

**The Walkabout, Shepherd's Bush Green** The scheme to demolish the building apart from the facade and erect an eight storey block of served apartments was approved by the Council. We are pleased that many of the conditions we sought have been incorporated in the consent.



*The Odeon, ex Pavillion, Shepherd's Bush Green 1923*

We look forward to seeing a building that we consider will complement the neighbouring listed buildings on this side of Shepherd's Bush Green.

**Hoxton Hotel Shepherd's Bush Green** This proposed hotel would be located adjacent to the listed Dorsett Hotel, formally the Pavillion Cinema, in the building currently housing the Post Office. Revisions have been made to the scheme originally presented. Changes relate to the upper stories and the general juxtaposition of the three elements and elevations. We consider that the current proposals could present an acceptable neighbour to the Dorsett Hotel whilst remaining subservient to it.

**Fulham Town Hall** The planning Inspector has dismissed the Appeal by Dory Ventures against the Council's refusal of their application to turn the building into a shopping mall with residential accommodation on the upper floors and extension.

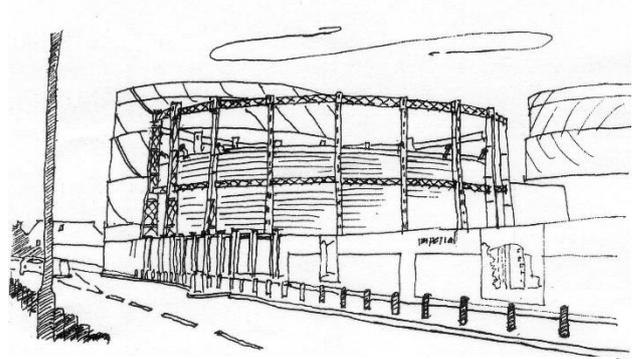


*Fulham Town Hall decorated for the 1937 Coronation.*

In his report the Inspector noted its high quality baroque façade and interior fittings, including an original staircase along with its symbolic role in reflecting ‘the democratisation of London during a period of burgeoning civic pride’. He ruled that the harm to its historical and architectural assets from this proposal would be unacceptable. We understand that the Fulham Town Hall has now been sold.

**Linford Christie Stadium** The HBG and Hammersmith Society had an informal meeting with QPR and Thames Valley Harriers to discuss early ideas to develop a football stadium and an eight lane athletic track on this site. Our main concern centres around the impact upon Wormwood Scrubs. We will be keeping a watchful eye on developments.

**Fulham Gasworks** National Grid have submitted an application to bring forward the date of the demolition of gasholder number 7. Members will have read Michael Bussell’s excellent article in Newsletter 35. This sets out clearly the Group’s position. We have written to the Council and the National Grid in response to this latest application stressing the need for a positive re use of *the* framework to be agreed before any dismantling takes place.



*Gasholder No 7*

**Queen’s Wharf/Riverside Studios Walk** A party of members from the HBG and The Hammersmith Society were given the opportunity to view the shell of the new Riverside Studios. We were impressed with the layout of the spaces being provided, which in terms of size replicate that of the former studios, and will ultimately also replicate the original acoustics. The complex will also provide a restaurant, brasserie and a display of archive material.

**Riverside Walk** By the time this newsletter reaches you, the new section of the Riverside Walk outside the Riverside Studios will have been opened allowing the public to proceed east towards Fulham.

In doing so, one will pass the recently unveiled statue of Capability Brown located on the Riverside walk at the end of Chancellors Road.

**Advertisements** We were disappointed to hear that the Council’s attempt to have the large internal advertisement at the end of Standish Road (overlooking the A4) removed, was overturned at appeal.

The Group will however continue to support the Council in future attempts to prevent intrusive advertisements particularly in and adjoining Conservation Areas.

The latest appeal concerns Riverbank House (Premier Inn) at the approach to Putney Bridge, where the appellant currently displays large illuminated adverts at both ends of the hotel block.

**Telephone Clutter** The group has just objected to 26 applications to install ‘Link Units’ across the Borough’s main shopping streets including King Street, Uxbridge road and Goldhawk Road. Link units are double sided advertisement panels incorporating a telephone. The Group question the need for telephones when their use in on the decline, and the increase in street clutter which runs contrary to council policies.

*Nicolas Fernley, Chairman, Planning sub committee*

## STOP PRESS

On 14 June the Blake's War Memorial in Margravine (Hammersmith) Cemetery was listed Grade II by DCMS on the advice of Historic England. This solid, yet melancholy structure, hidden on the cemetery edge, under a tree, near the boundary with the St Dunstan's Road houses, honours those munitions workers killed on 31 October 1918 at Blake's Wood Lane Munitions Factory when a hut where experimental caseless shells manufacture was being demonstrated to a US Army Officer. Eleven female munitions workers and two men were killed and a number were injured. The monument was paid for by the MP for Hammersmith in 1920.



Its listing demonstrates the DCMS's interest in seeing many war memorials listed as the centenary of World War One is commemorated.

We in H&F have a good many that are unlikely to be listed, by virtue of their condition or the type of structure they are. For instance, remounted on the boundary wall of Queens Club in Greyhound Road W14 is a cast concrete war memorial now so worn that the names can no longer be read.

While in the former Peterborough Road Board School, now Marie D'Orliac French School, the memorial to the

former pupils who died is a piece of furniture, which contains a Memorial Book and stands in the corner of a classroom. It is perhaps time for us to consider making an inventory of these memorials before they disappear.

*Charles Wagner*

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### Credits

*Editorial team:* Mike Derôme: Annabel Clarke, and Sheena Barbour

*Illustrations:* Matt Clayton 1-1; Emery Walker Trust 2-1; Anna Kunst 2-2, 2-3; Nick Charlesworth 3-1; Theatres Trust 3-2; Nicolas Fernley 4-1, 4-2; The Whitehouse Collection 4-3; Nicolas Fernley 5-1, Stella Griffiths 5-2, 5-3; Roger Warry 6-1; LBHF 7-1; Roger Warry 7-2; Nicolas Fernley 8-1, Charles Wagner 8-2.

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## MEMBERSHIP

Membership costs £10 for individuals, £15 for organisations. To join, contact the membership secretary ([sheenabarbour@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sheenabarbour@hotmail.co.uk)) or download an application form from our website ([www.hfbbg.org.uk](http://www.hfbbg.org.uk)).

