



Lee Manor Society

For further details on some of the topics below, visit <http://www.leemanorsociety.org>
Please consider changing to our email distribution – write to news@leemanorsociety.org

Next Meeting
8pm on 14th October 2009
at: Manor House Library (AV Room, east of Baring Room)

Open to all residents in the area. Formalities end 9.30pm - nibbles afterwards

Notes of our Meeting on 9th September at 105 Burnt Ash Road

Present: Charles Batchelor (Chairman), Sylvia Ling, David Plumer, Steve Griffiths (Treasurer), Faye Carney, Jeremy Carden, Andrea Breugelmanns, Anita Whitfield and Sheila Peck (Secretary)

Apologies: Ralph White, Suki Picarda, Sue Byford, Bridget Prentice, Rev.. Richard Bainbridge, Lee Green SNT

Lee Green Interpretation Panel

The Panel was installed at the crossroads in front of Leegate House on Monday 7th September and we were very pleased that Lib Dem Councillor Sven Griesenbeck was able to perform the formal unveiling for us. In the end the total cost of production and installation was £2,165.38 most of which was provided by Lewisham Council from last year's Locality Fund allocation. We are very pleased with the location which was authorised by TfL. and the installation work which was undertaken by Glendale. We are however rather disappointed with the quality of the reproduction of some of the photographs on the Panel and we hope that this will not detract from the pleasure local people will derive from it.

The Blackheath Historic Buildings Trust is working on plans for three more of its panels, two at the Manor House and one at the site of the demolished Dacre House in Brandram Road.

Planning related Matters

Hedgley Mews: A resident of Hedgley Street has complained to us and to the planning department about the delay in the completion of the building works and the extent of the imposition of the development on the adjacent properties. There have apparently been long periods when work has been halted.

Gas Pipes in Burnt Ash Road: We have noticed that unsightly gas pipes have been installed to the front and sides of Council properties which would appear to be in breach of the Article 4 provisions in the Conservation Area. They could also be vulnerable to vandalism. We have raised the matter with the Council's planning department who are investigating it.

In view of recent damage to trees, greens and plants in the area we are considering suggesting to the Council that it should employ a 'considerate contractors' scheme' which would mean, for example, that heavy equipment should not be leant against trees.

Gardens Leaflet

The [timeline leaflet](#) Jeremy produced for the Manor House Gardens User Group a while ago has now been submitted to the Historic Gardens Foundation for their new Prize for Best Guidebook to historic parks or gardens in England or Wales. As the leaflet was produced through MHGUG we are hoping they will submit an application to the Locality Fund for the funding of production of further copies for general distribution.

Ice House

We discussed a recent incident involving a rowdy group of youngsters in the Ice House. We have experienced very little trouble over the nine years that the Ice House has been open but we have now obtained the number to contact the Glendale ranger on duty and will purchase a whistle. We will again be opening the Ice House for the London Open House weekend for three hours on the Saturday and Sunday afternoons. The Ice House is approaching the 10th anniversary of its reopening and we are considering how we might mark that.

Boone's Chapel

The Merchant Taylors' Company is drawing up plans for restructuring their charitable activities in SE London i.e. their almshouses. The plans include possibly selling off some properties and the reconstruction of others and the Blackheath Historic Buildings Trust, which restored Boone's Chapel, has asked groups in the area to bring their proposals to the attention of local residents. The almshouses adjacent to Boone's Chapel are listed, but there is still concern about their future use.

Lee Green Crossroads and Leegate

The London Development Agency have produced a report which looks at seven South London town centres, including Lee Green, examining if new/increased housing could be an answer to revitalising them. Unfortunately there was no consultation with local people or groups but, interestingly, some of the points made in our Draft Design Initiative of 2007 seem to have been included. If you would like to know more then look at http://www.lda.gov.uk/upload/pdf/SEVEN_London_Towns_housing_intensification_20090901133222.PDF - but, be warned, it is a very, very long document, and you will need to copy ALL the web address to your browser!

Locality Fund

We discussed various suggestions and decided to put forward a request for:

(a) a seat to be located on one of the green areas that edge the red brick council estate between Taunton and Effingham Road. This would allow weary shoppers to rest on their journey to and from Lee Green.

or (b) the planting of additional horse chestnuts and limes to maintain and enhance the existing rows of mature trees that line Eltham Road and Burnt Ash Road. These avenues of trees make an important contribution to the leafy character of Lee but they need to be maintained if they are not to be lost. They will have the additional benefit of reducing traffic noise for nearby residents and help reduce Lewisham's carbon footprint.

Many thanks to Charles for hosting the meeting