

The Egbertian

NEWS FROM THE OLD EGBERTIAN ASSOCIATION



Autumn 2007

visit our website at: www.egbertians.com

The 'Last' Mile

This was the title of the 2007 London Walk which took place on Saturday 16th June under the guidance of one of our members, Malcolm Dick, a specialist lecturer in History of London and a City of London Guide. Twelve members and guests gathered at Mile End Underground Station at 10.30a.m. on a warm but blustery morning with showers forecast. We set off by walking through Mile End Park, with its impressive water feature, of which none of us were aware; an example of the open spaces which have recently been created as part of the redevelopment of this area of London.

Malcolm then led us down to the towpath on the side of the Regents Canal where he described its history. The Canal opened on the 1st August 1820 and was built to link the Grand Union Canal at Paddington with the River Thames at Limehouse. We followed the towpath passing the remains of canal-side warehouses, some

of which had been converted to museums, drop-in cafes, etc. We saw several locks which are kept in good working order by British Waterways, for this is still a canal in regular use although now for canal pleasure boats rather than the industrial barges of the past. A gas manufacturing plant fed with coal delivered by barge had been alongside the canal at one point, however the area was now being converted into a huge housing development and the only reminder of the past were the remains of the wharf on the canal.

continued overleaf



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We then arrived at Limehouse Basin which is now a marina packed with pleasure craft of all shapes and sizes, gone are all the warehouses and these are replaced with good looking blocks of apartments, very desirable and very expensive! After watching craft enter and leave the lock giving access to the Thames from the Basin, we joined the Thames Path to walk along the river to Wapping. On the way we were able to enjoy the sight of a Thames barge race in which the large barges are rowed by teams of rowers – a very energetic pastime!

Thus we arrived at 1.30p.m. at the Prospect of Whitby pub to enjoy a very welcome pint followed by an excellent lunch in a private room overlooking the Thames kindly arranged by Malcolm. The weather was kind to us with only a brief shower during the walk, the promised downpour arriving whilst we were having lunch, like the walk well planned by Malcolm! We are grateful to Malcolm for the time and effort that he put in

Social events for the year

This year's **Theatre Trip** will be a visit to see "Kiss me Kate" on Saturday October 27th at the Kenneth Moore Theatre in Ilford followed by a meal for those who wish to extend the proceedings. Once again this event has proved very popular and has been over subscribed.

A new event for this year is a **Brewery Tour** to the Griffin Brewery in Chiswick, West London. This will take place on Friday 16th November at 2pm and involves a 90 minute tour which will cover all aspects of the brewing process. Tour numbers are very limited so please reserve your places now (at £7.00 each) with Brian Pieri on 020 8524 0258 .

The **Memorial Mass** will be held at 10.30am on Sunday 9th December at the Catholic Church of Our Lady of Grace & St. Teresa of Avila, Chingford. what we have done.

The **Christmas Social** with buffet lunch will be held on Sunday 9th December at the Queen Elizabeth Public House, Forest Side, Chingford. Further details will be advised in due course.

The Old Egbertian Association

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Snippets

The Association was saddened to hear of the death of **Bro Fergus** earlier this year. Bro Fergus had lived in Ireland for many years but still kept in touch with the Association and was always very keen to hear of our activities. An Obituary will appear in a future issue of EgbertNews.

Brian Pieri, the OEA Social Secretary, is currently recovering well from heart surgery and his taken up his role as Social Secretary. Our thanks to Bill Crisp for filling in during his absence

Our apologies for the absence on an obituary for **Gordon Spurgeon** which was promised this issue. A lack of space prevented its inclusion as we have had some very good copy from several sources. Rest assured that it will appear in a future edition sometime in the future.

Ted Roche would still like to organise a **lunch club** which will involve two or three lunches a year for those members living south of the River Thames and for anyone else who would like to go along. Those interested should contact Ted on 01304 364856 or jill_roche@btinternet.com

The football club season has now started and the **Egbertian FC** are now running six sides and a Vets. If you want to see how they are doing go to www.egbertianfc.co.uk.

If you have any news that you wish to share with the membership then please let the editor know and we will do our best to include it.