

The Chairman then introduced the Secretary (Alan Rice) who gave 'short talk' entitled Down Your Way this was generally a 'revisit' of an article that appeared in the 'Feltham Notes' some years ago.

Down Your Way 'revisited'

In the public notices of the Chronicle of the 19th April there was a list of "new road names in various locations around London Borough of Hounslow" the purpose of the notice was to enable the enforcement and regulating of 'waiting and loading restrictions' and the Council's ability to particularly describe highways which had no appellation, i.e. road name.

The notice described the locations of these new 'roads' e.g. 'Sanders Lane' Hounslow - Parsonage Road Hounslow - Woods Close Hounslow a couple in Chiswick and one to be known as 'Bell Lane' Feltham, where you might ask - it seems the council is continuing with its insistence in writing out of local history any small village or town - Bell Lane is actually Bedfont - 'where'



It is the road that links Hatton Road with Staines Road - most probably named so because it is near The Bell Public House a more appropriate 'history wise' would have been Church Lane or St Mary's Lane.

Whilst researching our April Library talk James gave me a copy a map that was provided for Air Raid Wardens showing their route around Feltham & District during the War - the map in the main was taken from the 1933/4 O/S map but with additions.

There are some interesting features on the map particularly where roads are concerned - Off Carlton Avenue there is three small spurs of roads that originally must have been entrances to the fields and orchards of Sparrow Farm - they were named as, Denham Road, Fareham Road and Evesham Road, the latter today leads into Sparrow Farm Drive. Whether Evesham is now classified as part of SFD I am not sure but it is a road that I was not, until now, aware of? But does anyone know of a connection between these roads?

Opposite Carlton Avenue is Field Road - this used to be known as Milton Close down which if memory serves were prefabricated houses, and we see

that the news houses, in Hounslow Road where the small cottage stood is to have its own name Hedges Close.

The road from The Airman towards the High Street 'today's' Hanworth Road, was pre enclosure known as the road to Teddington or Teddington Road.

Not indicated on the map alluded to earlier, but in Bedfont Lane there were two or three 'small' 'short' 'narrow' lanes called 'Alleys' where the poor of Feltham lived – one of which is still in existence – entrance to Traylens Yard Nr 1 another is today's Manor Place – in passing Bedfont Lane was once called Rookery Lane (1871) and also Chapel Lane

There is peculiar characteristic in Victoria Road it seems that on entry to where General Aircraft Ltd was the road is shown to have a 'tuning fork' like split - both going nowhere.

A Question ?What was the original name of Vineyard Road [Grove Road] its name we understand was changed because of the bad reputation it had or should I say the dwellers had.

At church the other Sunday Pastor Mark spoke about his place of birth Sherringham on the north Norfolk coast – this was one of the road names that I was unable to provide explanation for when I wrote a piece for Feltham Notes many years ago called "Down Your Way" (as mentioned)

Also without explanation 'at the time' was Denison Road 'so named' now I understand after Edmund Beckett Denison designer of the clock tower for the Palace of Westminster, Denison was a barrister and also a gifted amateur clockmaker. In February 1852, a certain Mr. Dent was appointed to build the clock to Denison's own design.

As we approach old Feltham on the left was Edwards Road today called Spring Road –



Edward's was a local Blacksmith/Farrier whose 'shop' was adjacent the old Three Horseshoes in Spring Road – one can here the locals now 'down Edwards'



On a map drawn for road widening purposes 'where the cemetery lost a considerable slice of burial land' -for the bye pass of 1928 the new road is called 'St Dunstan's by Pass, and who would have been a post man when the ABC estate was built - the developer gave them all names beginning with Queens Park, e. g QP Avenue, QP Parade (Percival Road) QP Place (Princes Road) QP Villa (Westbourne Road) QP Road (Raleigh Road) and the only one that retained its original name QP Gardens – the others were changed at the insistence of the Post Office.

There was one other ABC road shown on the map and it concerns the Vernon Road of today - at one stage Vernon was in two sections with the section that leads off the High Street near Holly Parade up to the right angled bend having the name of Durban Road - any ideas on that?

Chertsey Road was at times referred to as Walton Bridge Road and staying at Feltham Hill Grovelly road was named Feltham Hill Road – this ran from Town Tree Road Ashford to Job's Dairy – the section that links Sunbury Road to the A316 is today called Snaky Lane one wonders if that may change again given that 'wide' 'edged' 'constructed paths' are now being built along its entire length and the volume of traffic is increasing all the while

It seems odd that a road can be named after a felon (Rylands Close) when a man who brought many jobs to Feltham 'the great Farmer and Grower' A W Smith has nothing, 'that I am aware of named' after him - perhaps that wrong, someday, will be righted.

Alan Rice
May 2013