

Feltham History Group

October meeting 2024.

Following the chairs greeting members **Roger and Hilary Parrit**, gave a brief summary of the group's third and final walk of the season which was around Pevensey Road Nature Reserve, Hanworth. (full report available) Under items of interest the honorary secretary appraised members of a couple queries that he had noticed of late, the first concerned the name of an area along the old parish boundary of Hanworth and Feltham. On certain modern maps De-Brome Open Space now bears the name of Leitrim Open Space. Adam de Brome was an almoner to King Edward II and founder of Oriel College Oxford, England, whereas Leitrim is a small town situated in the heart of County Leitrim, Ireland, - why Hounslow has called the open space 'which once was the playing fields of De Brome and La Fone secondary modern schools after a place on some foreign shore is inexplicable. Hounslow 'therefore' would do well to reconsider the present reference and return to the more local name

The area 'of late has also been referenced as Upper Crane Park! This information can be found on the Feltham Master Plan 2017; as prepared by Urban Initiatives Studio for Hounslow



As can be seen the area is named Upper Crane Park – to try to explain 'here

reproduced' is the response from FORCE (*Friends of the River Crane Environment*) to the Urban Initiatives Plan it reads – “*Upper Crane Park - FORCE welcomes the proposals to group all these eastern sites together as an extension to Crane Park. We consider there may be value in considering these sites formally as an extension of Crane Park. which already has Green Flag status in both LB Richmond and LB Hounslow. We also note that the local public have an attachment to the existing site names that recognise their historic interest and value*”. FORCE also state - “*We would recommend retaining the existing names whilst also designating them as part of an extended Crane Park.*”

Similar is the case of a playing field within Oriel School Hanworth where the playing field is named 'Drumshanbo'. Drumshanbo is a place in County Leitrim Ireland

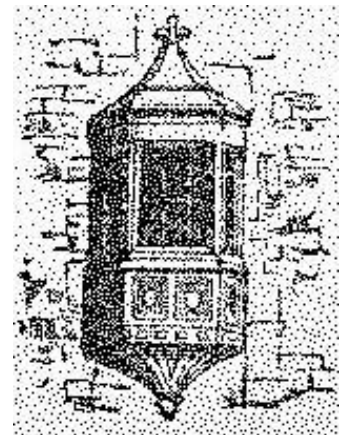


and refers tentatively to a dwelling place or places, hence the parlance “come around my drum”

Oriel school Hanworth ‘itself’ is so named in respect of the founder of **Oriel College**, Oxford ‘Adam De Brome’ who was one time Rector of Hanworth Church Hanworth in the 14c

One recognises, therefore, the close relationship between Oriel College, Oxford, and Oriel School Hanworth all the more reason therefore that the naming of the ‘field’ should be in context, i.e. Oriel School Playing Field. *The school now being an academy may well mean that Hounslow has no, or little control, over the naming of certain areas within the school complex?

‘The name soon after the foundation in 1326 of the ‘College of the Blessed Virgin Mary’ was given a property called ‘La Oriole’, which was on the site of the present ‘Front Quadrangle’ ‘a house of many windows’ and gradually the college came to be called by that name.



There is a similar ‘misnaming of a small recreation to be found in Bear Road Hanworth ‘Bear Road Park’ which in the Thomasons year book of 1965 under Parks and Open Spaces is referred to as ‘Lafone Recreation Ground’ which not too many years later had the title of Winslow Recreation Ground. Lafone and Winslow had meaningful association to Hanworth and its people, therefore a return to the previous name(s) should be acknowledged!

As said Hounslow Council would do well to observe the historic references to that which is in their charge and not pander to contemporary feeble whims.

Under 'forthcoming events' the chair reminded members that 'Open House Festival London' still has a week to run – details of which are on the OHFL website. Members were also made aware of local events, i.e. October 13th, Canal to Boston Manor House and 27th October Chiswick 'Ghosts and Bodies' AOB, as there were no 'AOB's the chair introduced Roger and Hilary Parrit for the second part of their talk on 'Rights of Way '

The meeting finished with the Chair giving detail on the November meeting which will feature more Feltham specific items together with our usual remembrance time reflections by the Chair



'only the forgotten are dead'