



Sussex Industrial Archaeology Society Newsletter

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Member Alan Green is kicking up a bit of a stink over this, elegantly decorated, last remaining example of this type of sewerage vent pipe, located close to Chichester's listed signal box. See the Alan's report inside this *Newsletter*. (Martin Snow)

Newsletter 162

Contents

April 2014

Editorial	2
Forthcoming SIAS Events	3
Events from Other Societies	4
Reports on the Winter Lectures 2014	7
Endangered Sites.....	11
Stop Press.....	11
Newpound Industries since 1959	12
Project : <i>Southern Queen to the Sea</i>	14
The Story of St. Giles' Bridge, Merston	16
More on the Sewer Vent Pipe at Chichester Signal Box.....	20
Mystery Photo and updates.....	22

Editorial

Welcome to *Newsletter* 162.

News just in; English Heritage have listed the old Bedfordwell Pumping Station in Eastbourne at Grade II.

The council depot site around it has permission for over 100 houses to be built. *Newsletter* 150 has a piece on the pumping station opened in 1883, but only used until 1903 due to contamination of the 40 foot deep well.

Gosia McCabe from English Heritage is reported to have said,

“Bedfordwell Pumping Station is a handsome classical style building comparable with Great Amwell Pumping Station in East Hertfordshire of 1883-built for the New River Company by Frederick Hitch of Ware, which is listed at Grade II.

“The structures are of almost identical date, both were with round-headed windows with cast-iron frames. Neither retain their original chimneys nor their beam engines. To sum up; Bedfordwell Pumping Station is a handsome 1881-83 classical style pumping station built by a notable architect. It remains substantially intact and meets the listing criteria for its building type.

“This is an impressive building which reflects the substantial investment of this private company in Eastbourne’s health, and the improvement of the town in the late C19, and it is considered one of the finest Victorian buildings in Eastbourne.”

More news - Although not listed (the modern ‘plastic’ windows sealed it’s fate) the signal box at Polegate is to be turned into a community museum and replica Saxby and Farmer windows will be fitted, the ‘up’ signal will be moved to an adjacent garden area and operated from a remaining lever inside the box.

After a ‘dismal’! winter let us hope we have better weather ahead for the summer, your Committee have organised several events - more to come in your next *Newsletter*.

Please do support the events and as ever do make suggestions for future events.