



Andover History and Archaeological Society Newsletter

*A look at historical & archaeological issues in
Andover
and the surrounding villages.*
2017 Number 3 September
www.andover-history.org.uk

From the Chair, September 2017

I hope you have all enjoyed a good summer. One event during the summer that a good number of us enjoyed was our evening walk around Whitchurch as guests of Whitchurch History Society. Probably for many it was not their first visit to Whitchurch but it made such a difference to be shown around by people who have knowledge and a deep interest in the history of their town. I have sent our thanks to the Society and to their Chair, John Mariner, who was our principal guide.

Now I am looking forward to our autumn season of talks and to reading the new edition of *Lookback* which, as always, is full of interest and will be on sale at our September meeting.

Another new book hot off the press is 'The Ancient and Famous Weyhill Fair' by Tony Raper. I have a copy of Tony's first book about the Fair so I asked him why he had felt another book was needed. He explained that the flow of new information about the fair had never stopped. The new book makes all that available and includes a good number of pictures that have never been seen before.

If you have you been looking for a local research project to tackle, we may have just the thing for you. The Society has in its possession a small box of 50-60 handwritten letters relating to an Andover Dilettante Society in the years 1879-1884. We will be depositing the letters at Hampshire Record Office but, before they go, would you like to do some research on them? If so, do let me know – by email or through the website at <http://www.andover-history.org.uk/c/> or have a chat at the next meeting.

Erica

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The members of the Committee are:

Erica Tinsley	Chair	Martin Coppen (Webmaster)
June Harris	{Joint	David Borrett (Lookback Editor)
Heather Needham	{Vice-chair	Brenda Mole
Christopher Coffin	Treasurer	Clifford Williams
Jane Flambert	Correspondence Secretary	
Felicity Chauncy		

Programme 2017

All meetings will take place at 7.30 pm.

22 September 2017 at the Guildhall

Tim Pye, National Trust Libraries Curator

National Trust Libraries

27 October 2017 at the Guildhall

Greg Gregory, local historian and long-time local resident

Andover 1947

24 November 2017 at the Guildhall

Roger Harris

The Post before Royal Mail

8 December 2017 at the Guildhall

Members' Talks

Seasonal Refreshments

Recent Meetings

On **23rd June**, members met at All Hallows, Whitchurch for a historical tour conducted by John Mariner and members of the Whitchurch History Society. Although the present church dates from 1868, incorporating Norman, 15th and 18th century work, it is on the site of a Saxon chalk church, which gave the town name, 'White-church'. The settlement was near the crossing of two pre-Saxon roads and the River Test. The borough was incorporated in 1248-9, the market in 1241. From the 16th century, the main industry was the cloth trade, and from the 19th silk. Its position made it an important coaching stop, and later a railway crossing. In the church, John drew attention to the painted commandments board (1602), Portal and Brooke monuments, and the c.800AD Saxon stone memorial to Frithburga. Among the 64 townsmen killed, the 1914-19 church War Memorial names two brothers of Lord Denning.

The guided walk down Church Street continued past The Lawns, the late Lord's residence, still the attractive venue for the Summer Fete. The Street boasts a number of historic cottages and houses of the 17th to 19th centuries. Turning up Fair Close, the group visited the old Whitchurch Primary School, converted to housing, with a thriving pre-school in the canteen building. A footpath led to the site of the town's once major employer, Long's Jam Factory, now Long's Court housing development, and Seeviours Court, where the gas works stood.

Noting cottages in Bell Street, some late medieval in origin, the group reached the Market Place, a busy junction of five roads, including the A34 before the bypass was built. A plaque commemorates the liberty to demonstrate gained by The Salvation Army in 1890. Beyond the Town Hall of 1786-7 in Newbury Street, another plaque marks the Denning's draper shop. The tour offered a welcome stop for refreshments at The White Hart, a fine 18-19th century coaching inn. From the older town core, newer 20th century building filled in the hill up towards the present mainline railway station.

Passing down Winchester Street and the Methodist Church of 1812, re-fronted 1903, and the former Primitive Chapel opposite (1902), the tour continued to the Silk Mill, on the River Test. Here the guide was Geoff Hide, grand-nephew of former owner James Hide, who ran it from 1886 until his death in 1955. Built as a saw mill by William Hayter in 1815, after his bankruptcy the building was adapted for silk weaving by the addition of a third story in 1817, with machine looms installed in the 1890s. Acquired after the factory's closure by the Hampshire Buildings Preservation Trust, it was restored as a working mill in 1985, and is currently planning improvements for the many visitors.

The tour finished with a walk to the Fulling Mill, and then back along the River Test up to the church. John and the members of the History Society were very warmly thanked for leading such a fascinating and informative tour of their town.

Martin Coppen



Andover's Shilling Fair on 13 August celebrating Andover's Georgian heritage
Thanks to Clifford Williams for this photograph

Lookback at Andover, the Yearly Journal of our Society

The next edition of *Lookback*, the 27th in the series, is bigger than ever. This year Craig Fisher, well known to many of you from his weekly column in the Andover Advertiser about World War I casualties, has written a fascinating article on Harold Holmes who was killed while serving in Sierra Leone in 1931. There is also a study by Jane Flambert on the attempt to establish a self-sufficient community near Andover in the 1920s, which was known as Hugh's Settlement.

The highly successful project to digitally copy the 2,700 photographic slides taken by Edith Howard is outlined by Martin Coppen and Greg Gregory has taken us back to 1950s Andover when he as the office junior at Barclay's bank had a very different experience from what would be customary practice today. David Borrett has written a history of the Andover grocer William Clark, a High Street business that flourished between 1855 and 1930, and finally Diana Coldicott has reviewed the several local interest books and publications that have appeared since last year.

Price remains at the very good value of £3.50 and will be on sale at the first meeting in September 2017 and will also be available at Waterstones and the museum.

David Borrett

Events of Interest

News from Andover Museum & Museum of the Iron Age

Activities at Andover Museum. These activities are organised by Andover Museum and MUST BE BOOKED DIRECT WITH THE MUSEUM.

Please Note The museum website states "To book onto one of our courses or talks, **please pop into the museum or call 01264 366283.** Doors open at 10am. Tea and Coffee provided Refunds are only issued if one of our courses is cancelled. We do not issues refunds if you do not turn up on the day."

The list below gives only basic information about each course and exhibition. There is so much more on the museum website, , hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk/andover-museum.

or phone the number above. Particularly keep in touch with the museum for more details of the excavation on the Aldi site.

2 October – 21 October Through the Year ... A Creative Challenge

With this exhibition we aim to show the versatility of the Andover Arts and Crafts Group through the use of different media ...

14 September – 12 October (5 week course) Nick Griffiths – Life in Medieval England

Using both archaeological and historical sources the course looks at a wide range of aspects of everyday life in medieval England ...

10.30 am – 12.30 pm. Cost £50

6 October Catalonian Tension Tray Workshop – tutor Judith Needham

This is a brilliant project for beginners to basket making ...

All materials provided as well as tea and coffee but please bring your own lunch

10.00 am – 3.00 pm. Cost Adult £40, Over 60 £30, in receipt of benefits £20

14 October - Paris: Art, Architecture and Romantic History: Mike Grundy

This course is a journey of discovery through the history, art and architecture of Paris, a city renowned throughout the world as the city of love, the city of light and, above all, the city of style ...

10.00 am – 3.30 pm Cost £24.00

26 October – 23 November (5 week course) William Morris and the Arts & Crafts movement in & around Hampshire: Dr Anne Anderson

Writer, painter, designer and political activist, William Morris instigated a revolt against mass-produced, poorly designed, and badly made objects...

10.30 am until 12.30 pm Cost £50.00

4 November – 13 January Hillside Chalk Figures

The hillside chalk figures are a unique part of our British heritage ... Artists Sue Emery, Wendy Fleckner, Jeanette Neale, Elizabeth Saunders and Barbara Strange aim to engage and raise awareness about the art heritage of the hillside figures through this exhibition.

Admission free

22 November How to Write Your First Novel with Della Galton

Do you have a big enough storyline? Does your plot keep the reader guessing? How do you create irresistible characters and settings? ...

10.00 am – 4.00 pm Cost £25/£18.75/£12.50

Tea and coffee will be provided but please bring your own lunch.

29 November How to create believable characters and write sparkling dialogue with Della Galton

Whether you are writing a novel or a short story, your characters are at the heart of it ...

11.00 am – 4.00 pm

Cost: Adult £25/ Over 60 £18.75/ In receipt of benefits £12.50

Tea and coffee will be provided but please bring your own lunch.

13 December Willow Christmas Decorations Workshop

Take a break from Christmas shopping and have fun making rustic decorations from natural materials.

10.00 am – 3.00 pm

Cost: Adult £40/Over 60 £30/In receipt of benefits £20

Tutor: Judith Needham

Tea and coffee will be provided but please bring your own lunch.

14 December Nuno Felt Scarves

You will spend the day learning about 'nuno' felting (Japanese for fabric); how different fibres 'migrate' through fabrics; and how to manipulate the fabrics to produce your desired results...

9.30am - 3.00pm

Cost; Adult £48.00/Over 60 £36.00/In receipt of benefits £24.00

Tutor: Sarah Waters

11 January 2018, Thursdays for 5 weeks. The Archaeology of the Ancient Greek Myths. Anna Simandiraki-Grimshaw

Most of us have heard of the Gods of Olympus, the Trojan War, Jason and the Argonauts, the Minotaur and many other weird and wonderful ancient Greek myths. But how much 'truth' lies behind them? ...

10.30 am – 12.30 pm

Cost £50

1 March 2018, Thursdays for 5 weeks. Masterpieces of Art Nouveau. Dalila Casteijn

The course provides an introduction to the art and architecture produced in Europe between 1890 and 1914. Inspired by the natural world, artists aimed to create works appropriate for the modern world ...

10.15 am – 12.15 pm

Cost £50.00

Archives and Local Studies news from Hampshire Record Office: Telephone 01962 846154

Website: <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/archives.htm>

These activities must be booked direct with Hampshire Record Office.

Last Thursday Lectures

28 September 1.15 pm Hyde Abbey

Discover the history of Hyde Abbey. Cost: Free

26 October 1.15 pm Hampshire Treasures Showreel

An archive filmshow presented by Robert Chilcot

Cost: Free

30 November 1.15 pm The women who built the Motor Torpedo Boat

Discover the women who built the Motor Torpedo Boat MTB during World War Two. Cost: Free

Workshops

14 September, Thursday, 10.00am Archive Ambassador Training Day. Discover how to preserve and catalogue your archival collections. How to digitise and make your collection accessible online. Or create new archives through oral history. Cost: £30, **advance booking essential. Phone 01962 846154 to book.**

26 September 2017, Tuesday, 2.00 pm Army Ancestors Workshop

Learn which sources can help you uncover the history of your ancestors in the army.

Cost: £20, **advance booking essential. Phone 01962 846154 to book.**

7 October, Saturday, 10.00 am, Family History Workshop. Inspired by recent episodes of Who Do You Think You Are? Want

to know how to start doing your family history? Join us to find out how you can start doing your family history and the various archival sources that could help you. Cost: £20 **Advance booking essential. Phone 01962 846154 to book.**

17 October 2017, Tuesday, 2:00pm, Map Workshop

Discover the amazing maps held by Hampshire Archives and Local Studies and how they can be used for family, house and local history. Cost: £20 **Advance booking essential. Phone 01962 846154 to book.**

15 November 2017, Wednesday, 2.00 pm, House History Workshop

Find out which sources can help you uncover the history of your house and the people who used to live there.

Cost: £20 **Advance booking essential. Phone 01962 846154 to book.**

Exhibition

Until Friday 29 September, Getting On: a photographic exhibition

An exhibition resulting from the Age Fusion intergenerational project. Available to see until the end of September in the Hampshire Record Office foyer during opening hours.

Cost: Free

AHAS Publications These publications can be ordered via our 'Contact Us' page at www.andover-history.org.uk, or by post from:

Andover History & Archaeology Society,

c/o 14 Upper Drove,

Andover, Hampshire

SP10 3NB

or purchased at our monthly meetings, from Andover Museum and from Waterstones

Andover's Norman Church

by Martin Coppen (2015) 58pp, 20pp of illustrations, mostly in colour, £7

The Archaeology of Andover, the Excavations of Andover Archaeological Society 1964-89

by Nick Stoodley (2013) 114 pp £20

A Second Andover Miscellany. This comprises four articles,

A Portrait of Robert Tasker, and Dr George Vivian Poore and his Crusade for Natural Sanitation

both by David Borrett, Water and Sanitation in Andover by John Isherwood,

and Booksellers and Printers in Andover, 1725-1855 by Diana Coldicott.

(2012) 114 pp £9.50

An Andover Miscellany

by David Borrett, Andrew Jackson and Harry Paris (2008) 130 pp £8.50

Andover. An Historic Portrait

by John Spaul (1977) 160 pp £5.00

Andover - Civil War & Interregnum

by Anthony Raper (1994) 85 pp £3.95

Andover Priory

by R Arnold Jones (n.d) 24 pp 50p

Andover's Wartime Years

by June Mary Harris(2000) 119 pp £6.00

Elizabethan Andover

by Diana Coldicott (2004) 212 pp £5

Members of Parliament for Andover 1295-1885

by R Arnold Jones (1996) 83 pp £4.95

Samuel Best & the Hampshire labourer

by Alastair Geddes (n.d.) £1.00

Something in the Water. The Anti-Fluoride Campaign in Andover 1955-1958

by David Borrett (2002) 104 pp £3

Lookback at Andover is the title of the Society's journal which has been published annually since 1990.

The 2017 edition will be available at the 22 September meeting, and at Waterstones, Andover Museum and from the address above, cost £3.50. See David Borrett's note above

The journal for 2000 includes a cumulative index for the first ten issues and the 2010 journal contains an index for 2000-2009. Back numbers are available as follows:-

1995-1999 cost £2.00 each

2000-2007 cost £2.50 each

2008-2014 cost £3.00 each

2015-2017 cost £3.50 each

And finally...

A man walks into the pet shop and asks the assistant for an unusual pet. "I've got the very thing," he replied. "A talking centipede." "I'll take it," the man said, so the shopkeeper put the centipede into a matchbox and gave it to the man. When he got home, the man opened the matchbox and said, "Hey little fellow, do you fancy going down the pub for a pint?" No answer, so the man closed the matchbox and thought that the centipede was probably tired after the travelling so he waited. After about an hour, he opened the matchbox again and again said "Hey little fellow, do you fancy going down the pub for a pint?" Still no answer, so he closed the matchbox and waited. Another hour went by and he opened the matchbox and said "Hey little fellow, do you fancy going down the pub for a pint?" The centipede said, "There's no need to keep repeating yourself, I heard you the first time, I was just putting my shoes on."

Thanks to Martin Coppen