



# Andover History and Archaeological Society Newsletter

*A look at historical & archaeological issues in  
Andover*

*and the surrounding villages.*

**2018 Number 1 January**

[www.andover-history.org.uk](http://www.andover-history.org.uk)

## **From the Chair, January 2018**

It seems no time at all since I was writing at the start of our autumn 2017 season and looking forward to several talks by our own members about aspects of Andover in living memory. Those talks prompted many of you to reminisce afterwards about your own experiences of working in the town and your involvement in the clubs, dances, music, drama and other things that made up its social life. I do hope that some of you will put pen to paper about those things and share pictures you may have.

Towards the end of the year, it was a real treat for us all to be invited to the joint concert at St Mary's given by Andover's Harmonium Singers and the Norwegian male voice choir Olav's Menn. The Menn had included Andover in their itinerary because of its significance in the life of King Olaf Tryggvason and their programme included pieces from Elgar's Scenes from the Saga of King Olaf. They were very appreciative of the commemorative booklet we produced for them to mark the occasion.

If you were at our December meeting you will have seen that, in response to members' requests, we have produced a programme card for 2018. We have chosen to make it small so that it can be kept along with your bank cards and we would be interested to know what you think of it.

Our programme for 2018 is full of good things. I am looking forward to it and hope you will enjoy it too.  
*Erica*

## **The members of the Committee are:**

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

## **Programme 2018**

All meetings will take place at 7.30 pm unless indicated otherwise

### **26 January at the Guildhall**

*Andrew Manning, Wessex Archaeology*

**The archaeological approach, how the past is being brought back to life**

### **16 February 2018 at the Guildhall (*Please note the date*)**

*Phoebe Merrick*

**Wig Powder and Windows: Some thoughts on Taxation**

### **23 March 2018 at the Guildhall. AGM will follow the talk**

*Jane Kennedy*

**Stephen Hopkins: an adventure from Upper Clatford to Plymouth, Massachusetts**

**27th April, 2018 DACRE LECTURE at the Guildhall**  
*Dr Jeremy Burchardt, Reading University*  
**Children and the making of rural spaces in 20<sup>th</sup> century England**

**25th May 2018 at the Guildhall**  
*Geraldine Beech*  
**Tithe Maps**

**22nd June 2018 (Time to be arranged)**  
*Hugh and Jane Flambert*  
**Visit to, Fyfield, to see ancient trees at Littleton Manor**

**28 September 2018 at the Guildhall**  
*Alan Turton*  
**Jane Austen and the Military**

**26 October 2018 at the Guildhall**  
*Martin Gregory*  
**Mills & Milling in Hampshire**

**30 November 2018 (please note the date)**  
*David Swindell*  
**In the Footsteps of Francis Frith**

**14 December 2018, Christmas Party at the Guildhall**  
*Greg Gregory*  
**Blink and you missed it!**  
*Phil Farlow*  
**More music notes**

## **Members' Contributions**

From committee member Clifford Williams:

'After reading the excellent articles in LOOKBACK (2017), I was reminded by Jane's article on Hugh's Settlement, about an old Pathé news clip from the late 1930s I saw a few years ago. This can be viewed on You Tube;

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W7qfLCYi-TY>

This short clip (30 secs) shows Jewish refugees near Andover in a project set up by the Quakers (Society of Friends).

The Andover Advertiser of December 9 1938 carries a report on this project. The headline reads 'Austrian Refugees at Quarley; Rescued from the Nazi Terror; Now living in lonely hill-top bungalow; Learning English and Horticulture in order to emigrate.' Land was rented by the Quakers from Hugh's Settlement and on it lived two married couples and six single men, all Jewish refugees from Vienna. They were guided by Brother David of the Order of Divine Love.'

DECEMBER 9, 1938

## Austrian Refugees at Quarley

RESCUED FROM THE NAZI TERROR

NOW LIVING IN LONELY HILL-TOP BUNGALOW

LEARNING ENGLISH AND HORTICULTURE IN ORDER  
TO EMIGRATE.

Stripped of their belongings, driven from their homes and businesses, deprived even of the right to live, interned in concentration camps, insulted, harried and oppressed by every means that the sadism of their persecutors can devise, thousands of Jews are seeking frantically for means of escape from the Nazi regime.

Only a small percentage is successful. Some, however, with foreign assistance, are enabled to flee the country—although in an absolutely penniless condition—and ten of them have found refuge at Quarley, near Andover.

On the tree-crowned summit of a bleak, windswept hill to the west of Quarley, some three-quarters of a mile to the south of the main Andover-Amesbury road, stands a long, low, white bungalow—rented from Hugh's Settlement Ltd. by the Society of Friends (the "Quakers")—and here, for the space of six months at least, these German Jews have found safety. They are starting life anew under the guidance of Brother David, of the Order of Divine Love, with a view to emigration when their permit to stay in this country has expired.

The headline of the article from the *Andover Advertiser* for 9th December 1938. Photo supplied by the Hampshire Archives and Local Studies (formerly Hampshire Record Office) who hold the original newspaper which is too fragile for public perusal. HALS reference 108A00/78. Many thanks to HALS. [The article can also be seen in microform in Andover Library.](#)

*Note from the editor. I was so interested to see the Pathé news clip which is definitely of Hugh's Settlement as the house matches photos we have. The full article in the Andover Advertiser tells a chilling story. Please, if anyone else has any information about Hugh's Settlement, documentary or anecdotal, please get in touch via the website. Jane Flambert*

### **Recent Meetings**

In September, Tim Pye, newly appointed as National Trust Libraries' curator, described the importance of the libraries in the Trust's collections. There are around 750,000 books on the shelves in 165 different houses, and 400,000 different titles, dating from the Caxton 'Lyme Missal' of 1487 to 20<sup>th</sup> century gothic novels. Some visitors think the finely-bound books in a house's library have been 'bought by the yard'. In fact, the book collection — along with the furnishings and paintings — is a key to unlocking the story of that house. While the national libraries are for scholars, the National Trust libraries bring the ordinary visitor in touch with significant books.

In its early days, the Trust was more interested in the house than its contents, and books were sold off or dispersed to other houses. In a country house, the books were used by the owners, rather than displayed to impress. For instance, the books in Anglesey Abbey, Cambridgeshire were rebound by its Anglo-American millionaire owner, but include a unique collection of hand-coloured plate books bought by this discriminating collector.

In Wimpole Hall, also near Cambridge, the library was begun in 1711, with the bibliophile Harley family, Earls of Oxford, augmenting its collection to 50,000 volumes. Although these were sold off, the library was replenished by their successors, the Hardwickses. In the 20<sup>th</sup> century, under the ownership of Elsie Bambridge, a daughter of Rudyard Kipling, a number of the English writer's books were added.

The benign neglect of country house libraries gave them an advantage over the national libraries. Their books may also contain interesting material: notes showing what a contemporary reader thought important; doodles; a postcard from Mark Twain; a prayer book with changes of monarch in the state prayers; artistic bookplates; a shopping list.

Tim gave a local example. James Payne—not known by every member—was a famous Palladian architect whose 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth in Andover falls in October this year. His great buildings include Nostell Priory, Kedleston Hall, Chatsworth House. He was unfortunately eclipsed by Robert Adam. One of his smaller commissions, Felbrigg Hall, has an important library with Payne's book on architecture next to Adam's own book with its beautifully-tooled spine, rubbing in the rivalry.

Women might transform a library, bringing collections with them on marriage. Sabine Winn, the daughter of a Swiss baron, brought her library of French books to Nostell Priory on her marriage in 1761. Smaller collections are also in industrial premises, and are significant for local social history. For instance, Quarry Bank, a Manchester cotton mill, has a workers' library, with reprints of classics, improving SPCK books and a record of who borrowed what.

Cataloguing began in 1991, and the project is about two-thirds completed. All the titles can be searched online in the national Copac catalogue, <http://copac.jisc.ac.uk> or through the National Trust collections website, <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/art-and-collections>.

Tim was thanked very warmly for his talk and the Society wished him well in his daunting task of cataloguing and conservation.

*Martin Coppen*

*Andover 1947* was Greg Gregory's theme for his illustrated talk in The Guildhall on 28<sup>th</sup> October. He offered a kaleidoscope of pictures and recollections of the town of 70 years ago, from his own experience as an Andover Grammar School boy coming from Whitchurch, detailed reports in the Andover Advertiser and Kelly's Directories. Clothing, coal, churches and chapels, employment, road and rail, gas and electricity, schools, health, housing, library and museum, pubs and leisure in the town were described by Greg and set in the national context of a very challenging year. Members with memories of life in the town in 1947 added their own details, while those brought up elsewhere compared the pictures with the town they know.

Andover then had a population of around 12,000. It was the hub of the villages around, especially on Saturdays with the market—which moved from Bridge Street to the High Street in September 1947—, its cinemas and sports events. The many shops, small specialists and larger stores, marked a time before the dominance of supermarkets, though some national chains like Marks and Spencer, Woolworth and W H Smith were here. There was rationing, but a schoolboy might enjoy unrationed liquorice twists, the wonderful ice-cream in Tony's Café, and that gathering place for the young, The Mikado.

January 1947 was marked by the worst snow blizzard since 1894, turning into the severest winter since 1877. There was a sudden thaw on 7 February causing hundreds of burst pipes and losing 450,000 gallons of water. But Greg's daily bus ride to school was uninterrupted as his Venture Bus service used snow chains on the unheated bus. The football season finally ended on Whit Monday, so he was able to see both a Hampshire County Cricket match and Southampton playing football against Leicester at The Dell on the same day.

Echoes of the War lingered. Home Guard and ARP Wardens' signs remained on doors. A temporary 'Static Water Supply' reservoir was now used as a swimming pool. Many military personnel continued at Tidworth, the four army camps at Barton Stacey and the Army Pay Corps at Whitchurch and Stockbridge. Andover, Ampport, Middle Wallop, Chilbolton, Thruxton and Longparish (a bomb dump in Harewood Forest) all had RAF bases. Even the Royal Navy was nearby at Worthy Down and US soldiers still around.

The Andover Borough Council of 1947 was composed of Mayor Charlton, four Aldermen and 12 ward Councillors. The Council was becoming politicised, although most were independent (later Conservatives), and there was even one communist councillor. Petty crime was dealt with in the fortnightly Sessions in the Guildhall. The year saw convictions for an 81-year-old indecent exposé, 28 people caught under a wireless licence crackdown, a nine-year-old arsonist.

With a wealth of evocative local detail, Greg, with his careful research and engaging presentation, vividly sketched the changing life of Andover through the rigours of 1947. He was thanked very warmly.

*Martin Coppen*

In November, Roger Harris, presenting 'The Post before Royal Mail', began by explaining that up to 1840 no envelopes were used, instead the letter sheet was folded and sealed. Secondly, it was the recipient who paid the postage costs, based on the postal mileage and number of sheets of the letter. Andover to London was assessed as 68 miles in 1787, revised to 66 miles from 1802.

Before 1579 there was literally only royal mail, the king's correspondence carried on approved routes. Through north Hampshire the route from London ran via Hartfordbridge (near Hartley Wintney), through Basingstoke, Whitchurch and Andover to the west.

The first known Andover postmaster, appointed on 1 Oct 1579, was John Smith. A postmaster was usually an innholder with stabling. Post-boys, who might be as young as 12 years old or in their 70s, took the mail from one postmaster to the next by horse, a post bag on his back, blowing a horn on entering a town and every third of a mile on the road. As they visited inns along the way, post-boys also gossiped. Enterprising inn-keepers reported the stories, hence newspapers called *The Courier or Messenger*, and *Evening Post*. The occupation was hazardous, with atrocious roads and danger from highwaymen. But the first recorded postal robbery in 1650 netted just 11d.

Postage rates started from 2d in 1635, when a labourer was getting 8d a day, so the post was out of reach for ordinary people.

By 1786 post-boys gave way to the mail coach. Delivery was now faster and safer, protected by an armed post-guard. A standard coach took four inside passengers with the driver in front and guard behind. Often six more travelled seated on the roof, making the coach unstable. It was a great sight in London to see the mail coaches all leaving at 8.00pm. There was pride in travelling to the timetable, though the heavy snow of 1836 engulfed a coach near Andover and it arrived in Exeter 12 hours late.

MPs did not pay postage, leading to abuse of the system. The Christchurch MP's daughter, Anne Sturges-Bourne, got her father to sign her frequent letters (now in Hampshire Record Office) to close friend Marianne Dyson to avoid postage costs.

From 1830, the railways began carrying mail and road mail coaches were all but gone within 25 years. In 1837, Rowland Hill, concerned to expand services to the poor, published proposals for postal reform. The initial 4d universal post was soon moderated under Hill's pressure to 1d and within a few months the first 1d black adhesive labels issued. Initially a red frank was used but since it could be washed out, the stamp was changed to red with black franking.

By way of a coda to his very entertaining talk, Roger showed an envelope posted in 1847 in London for Overton (Whitchurch, Hants) stamped with 16 franks of false deliveries to other Overtons and Whitchurches before delivery to the correct address.

*Martin Coppen*

Christmas Meeting, December 2017. In the first of the evening's Members' Talks, June Harris described 'Secretarial Training in Wartime Andover'. From at least 1917, secretarial training was offered at official night school in East Street School at 3/6d for a two-year course. The private Woodner Institute offered day & evening classes with free typewriting practice at Lloyds Bank Chambers, above the Bank. By the 1940s, Miss Hart, daughter of the 'Parsons and Hart' store partnership, was also giving secretarial lessons in her home in Junction Road. Miss Knapp, the surviving partner of the Woodner Institute when it closed, took that name for her school in rooms over Mence Smith's hardware shop in Bridge Street, though it became known as 'Miss Knapp's'.

June started her training in January 1943, while she was aged 13 and still at school, attending in the evenings. She illustrated how the shorthand characters invented by Sir Isaac Pitman were formed. By autumn 1945 she had passed the 80 words a minute shorthand test. In addition to basing her working career on its use, she has found herself much in demand for minute taking!

Questions elicited that a Mr Charlton of The Avenue had been an expert in shorthand, which he had taken up through his interest in Charles Dickens, who used the Gurney system.

Why did she do it? It considerably broadened her employability: a shop girl could earn £1 a week, as a shorthand-typist she could expect £1 5s.

In the second talk, Phil Farlow shared his enthusiasm for music of the 1940s with a local connection.

In 1940, the relatively unknown Richard Addinsell, living at Chute Lodge, was commissioned to compose the score for 'Dangerous Moonlight', a film based on the story of a Polish concert pianist becoming a Battle of Britain pilot. The film is memorable for the 'Warsaw Concerto', written by Addinsell, orchestrated by Roy Douglas in the style of Rachmaninoff. Amongst Addinsell's friends was Joyce Grenfell. Hugh Overmass, owner of Andover's Savoy Cinema, promoted a concert with Addinsell and Grenfell in 1942 with the first performance of their jointly written song, 'There is nothing new to tell you'. Phil also played Addinsell's 'Tune in G', inspired by the landscape around his parents' home in Appleshaw.

Roger Quilter, a generation before Addinsell, performed locally with Isidore Harvey, shop owner and aspiring concert pianist. Quilter is best known for his songs and the 'Children's Overture' based on nursery rhymes premiered at the 1919 Proms. On 16 November 1921 in this very room of the Guildhall, Harvey and Quilter performed two concerts. Phil played a recording of Quilter's gentle piano piece, 'Dance in the Twilight', which Harvey played that day.

Phil then introduced the music of 'The Squadronaires', an RAF dance band formed in 1940, who are known to have played in Andover. They were high quality musicians, including trombonist George Chisholm. Phil signed off with a broadcast recording in 1944 of the band playing jazz standard 'Cherokee' by Ray Noble.

*Martin Coppen*

## **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. Phone: 01264 366283**

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](http://hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk/andover-museum) or phone the number above.

**11 January 2018, then 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, phone number above, or booked and paid for at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/shop/home.php?cat=513>

**Last Thursday Lectures ( all at 1.15 pm and free, no booking required)**

**25 January 2018**

Join Dr Clifford Williams as he discusses the history of women policing in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight (Clifford is an AHAS member, on our committee)

**22 February 2018**

Eling Tide Mill - past, present & future

**29 March 2018**

Pets in the archives at Hampshire Record Office

**Other Events (for more details contact the website or phone number above)**

### **Exhibitions**

**January-March 2018** Pets in the archives as part of a project at Royal Holloway, University of London on 'Pets and Family Life in England and Wales, 1837-1939'.

**April-June 2018** The history of farming in East Meon presented by the East Meon History Society.

**July-September 2018** Recent research by the Barton Stacey History Group, including the great fire which took place in the village.

### **Workshops**

**27 February 2018 2-4pm Poor Law workshop: Was your ancestor ever sent to the workhouse? Cost £20**  
Advance booking required \_\_\_\_\_

**20 March 2018 1-3pm Wessex Film and Sound Archive Workshop.** Do you have an old cine film in the attic?... Cost:£20, advance booking required.

**17 May 2018 2-4pm** Palaeography for beginners. Learn how to read old handwriting ... Cost: £20, advance booking required.

### **Archive Ambassadors**

**15 March 2018 10am-3:30pm.** Join us on our unique training day and learn from the experts on 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 required.

### **Behind the scenes tours**

**8 February 2018 2-4 pm**

**18 April 2018 6.30-8.30 pm**

Cost:£10, advance booking required.

### **Special Events**

**22 February 2018 6.30-8.30pm.** Transport in the archives. Join us for a special evening of archive film and display of documents ...

Cost: £12, early bird offer of £10 if booking before 8 February 2018.

**17 March 2018 10am-1pm.** Community Archive Forum. Listen to local speakers talk about their own projects ... Free event. Contact [matthew.goodwin@hants.gov.uk](mailto:matthew.goodwin@hants.gov.uk) to RSVP your place.

### **Archive Film**

Matthew Goodwin from Hampshire Record Office tells us: There is a lot of footage in the collection depicting the 1953 coronation celebrations. It is often really interesting to see the many ways that various communities celebrated the occasion. This film, shot in Andover, has lots of fascinating costumes, races and merrymaking!

Reference: AV6/M546 Andover Coronation Celebrations 1953

**AHAS Publications** These publications can be ordered via our 'Contact Us' page at [www.andover-history.org.uk](http://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 is available now at the meetings, at Waterstones, Andover Museum and from the address above, cost £3.50.**

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...** (*and thanks to Martin once again for these*)

**Encouraging messages for disturbed people:**

FOLLOW YOUR DREAMS!

Except that one where you're naked in church.

My short-term memory is not as sharp as it used to be.

Also, my short-term memory's not as sharp as it used to be.

Corduroy pillows are making headlines!

The statement below is true.

The statement above is false.

I have kleptomania, but when it gets bad, I take something for it.

I LOVE COOKING WITH WINE

Sometimes I even put it in the food.

In just two days from now, tomorrow will be yesterday.

Money isn't everything, but it sure keeps the kids in touch.