



Andover History and Archaeological Society Newsletter

*A look at historical & archaeological issues in
Andover*

and the surrounding villages.

2019 Number 1 January

www.andover-history.org.uk

From the Chair January 2019

As we go into 2019, I am looking forward to our new programme and to taking forward new things. First amongst those things is further work on the Edith Howard collection which has been delayed by copyright issues but hopefully those issues are now resolved.

You will recall that, at the AGM last March, Phil Farlow spoke about the Ron Morris film collection held in the Wessex Film & Sound Archive which contains unique moving images of Andover and district from the late 1940's and 1950's. He hoped that AHAS would contribute to the cost of cleaning and digitising the films so that they could be properly organised, viewed and perhaps brought to a wider audience. Your committee agreed in principle to support the project but, in the event, it did not go ahead. The work would have been done by a specialist film company but the owners of the films preferred that they remained in Wessex Film & Sound Archive until WFSA had the equipment to do the work in house. A disappointing but understandable outcome.

One project we do intend to take forward this year is a new AHAS website. Our current website went live in 2012 and has served us well, enabling us to interest and interact with a wide audience and to advertise our publications. Now it is beginning to show its age and gremlins are creeping in so we have set up a small sub-committee to progress the work which will start in February.

Although future historians may rue the transience of electronic communication, advances in technology are bringing great benefit to our understanding of the past and making us rethink some things we thought we understood. That was the theme of the 60th Anniversary Conference of CBA Wessex that I promoted in my introduction to the September Newsletter and Jane Flambert and I attended through our AHAS corporate membership. The day was called '*Dawn: New Light on our Earliest Ancestors to the Hunter-Gatherers of the Mesolithic*' and it was packed full of interest. Through AHAS you have access to historical and archaeological research going on across Hampshire and Wessex. Information is in the Newsletter, in flyers on the booksales table at meetings and sometimes, when time is short, in specific emails. I do encourage you to take advantage of these opportunities which I am sure you will appreciate and enjoy.

There are always new and as yet unanswered questions about our local history and I hope you have included some local research in your resolutions for 2019. Whatever your plans, I hope you have a very Happy New Year. *Erica Tinsley* erica.tinsley@btinternet.com

The members of the Committee are:

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Erica Tinsley | Chair | David Borrett (Lookback Editor) |
| June Harris | {Joint | Felicity Coldicott |
| Heather Needham | {Vice Chair | Lesley Hind |
| Christopher Coffin | {Treasurer | Sue McPartlan |
| Andrew Hobley | {Treasurer | Brenda Mole |
| Jane Flambert | Correspondence Secretary | Clifford Williams |
| Lois Allender | Membership Secretary | |

Programme 2019

All meetings will take place at 7.30 pm.

25 January 2019 Venue: Andover Guildhall

Dave Walton

More about the History of British Coinage

22 February 2019 Venue: Andover Guildhall

Martin Coppen

An evening in the studio with Edith Howard

22 March 2019 Annual General Meeting Venue: Andover Guildhall

Bob Clark

The False Messiah of Overton

26 April 2019 The Dacre Lecture Venue: Fairground Hall Weyhill

Andrew Manning

Recent local archaeological studies and their significance

24 May 2019 Venue: Andover Guildhall

Stephen Whelan

King Alfred and his war against the Great Heathen Army

28 June 2019 Village Walk, Stockbridge. Details to be announced

Recent Meetings

Jane Austen and the military; 'and now I'm bound for Brighton camp'.

The new season of the society commenced on Friday 28th September with an entertaining and well illustrated talk by military historian **Alan Turton** at Andover Guildhall.

Members were treated to a clear explanation of the variety of military ranks and roles that feature in Jane Austen's novels and those she was likely to have encountered during her lifetime.

Jane was born in 1775 . During her lifetime Britain was threatened by France and relied heavily on the navy to defend the country. Two of Jane's brothers served in the Navy and after Jane's death in 1817 they both rose to high rank.

The army was a less well paid career but at least those who signed up got a pension. You had to have good teeth to bite the cartridges before loading your weapons and so loss of teeth was one reason some soldiers were pensioned off.

To defend British soil each county had militia, rather like a Home Guard. These men were chosen to do service for three years. In peace times their service consisted of just six training days a year but in time of war they became paid regulars for home defence, often being camped on the south coast. Sergeants of the militia were full time soldiers. Militia were often billeted in people's homes. Brighton was the biggest camp on the south coast during Jane's time.

There was also a militia camp in Winchester which has recently been excavated.

One of Jane's brother, Henry Austen, served in the Oxfordshire militia.

The only action by a British militia to repel a foreign army happened at Fishguard in 1797, when 1,800 French landed.

The invaders were disorganised and quite incapable of putting up any trouble to the local militia and the 'invasion' was quickly quelled.

Many army and militia officers attended local Balls in Hampshire. These are described in Jane's novels.

Clifford Williams

Mills and milling in Hampshire

Martin Gregory was the guest speaker at the October meeting of the society, **Mills and Milling in Hampshire**. He started his talk by explaining the composition of wheat grain and how the Roman army, which marched on bread, developed mills in Hampshire.

The Test and Itchen both flow at a fairly constant rate throughout the year and were suited to undershot waterwheels for the mills. Winchester had several operating mills but when the Wharf Mill was newly rebuilt (following a fire) in 1885, it proved so efficient that other mills were put out of business. Today the City Mill still functions in Winchester as a National Trust centre. Until the reign of Henry VIIIth, City Mill had belonged to the Abbess of Wherwell. When Winchester's Durngate Mill was demolished some of the equipment was salvaged and is now in use at the City Mill.

Hampshire had about 300 watermills and 6 windmills. The mill at Eling, near Southampton, operated on the tides. It ceased to be profitable when a new steam driven mill was erected nearby. The site is now a heritage centre.

Hedley Mill near Bordon was the last commercial watermill operating in the County.

Highly mechanised and producing 50 tons of flour a day Rank Hovis Solent Mills is the largest operating mill in Hampshire today (however its closure was announced earlier this year).

We learned that basalt stone or hard quartzite are the best rocks for millstones. There are two sources in Europe -one east of Paris and the other in the Rhine mountains. However the quarries are no longer operating there. Millstones have a life of approximately 100 years. A Dutch aggregate stone is now used for millstone production.

Near to Andover we have the Crux Easton wind engine which was made by a Warminster firm.

Members enjoyed a fascinating talk; Andover mills were not mentioned, perhaps one day one of our members will research them!

Clifford Williams

Francis Frith

In the footsteps of Francis Frith (1822-1898) was the subject of the November meeting of the Society. Society member **David Swindell** has, over a large number of years, visited the places in Germany photographed by Frith, trying to take his pictures from the exact spot where Frith set up his camera.

This has often involved negotiating steep climbs, busy roads and peering through thick foliage which simply was not there over one hundred years earlier. Comparing the scenes and discussing the precision of each shot we learned a lot about David's adventures.

He has published a book in German which illustrates these photographs and the trips he has taken down the Rhine.

Frith took up photography full time after he had made a vast sum selling his successful grocery business. He established Francis Frith and Co. and quickly became a leading seller of prints of scenes. His books also sold well.

The company went on to produce thousands of postcards until it was finally closed in 1971. Bill Jay bought the collection that the company had created. For a while the collection was based in Charlton Road, Andover. The current owners of the prints, The Francis Frith Collection, sells prints and items from the collection's vast image range, although they have no images from the Rhine, or anywhere in Germany for that matter, on their current website.

Clifford Williams

Christmas Meeting

Two members entertained the society at the December meeting.

Greg Gregory's talk '**Blink and you missed it**' included slides of many temporary aspects of the local scene, such as signs which appear briefly. There was a festive example of a septic tank manufactured by local firm Entec decorated to look like a christmas pudding! And a spitfire which used to stand on the Monxton Road, followed by the question; did spitfires ever fly from Andover?

Phil Farlow gave us '**More Musical Notes**'. We were entertained to an early BBC recording, made at the opening of the Enham Centre by the Prince of Wales in 1926. A vinyl record made by T. Lynn of Andover of 'Merrie England' by Edward German was played. Lynn had a recording studio on the top floor of his Bridge Street premises. It is likely this particular recording was made during coronation year (1953) and the audience were invited to suggest which production it might have been that was recorded.

The voice of Harry Plunket Green, who lived at Hurstbourne Priors, was also heard. Plunkett Green sang in the first performance of Elgar's The Dream of Gerontius. We heard recordings from 1905, 1928 and 1934, this included the sad song 'The Hurdy-Gurdy man'.

So ended the 2018 programme.

Clifford Williams

Free to a good home:

I have five bound volumes of the ANDOVER MIDWEEK ADVERTISER years 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991 and 1993.

They are in pristine condition. **Free** to a good home. To be collected.

Dr Clifford Williams 01264 357820



Members' Contributions

Delivering Lookback



Some Lookbacks go a long way – several Andoverians who have moved away subscribe to Lookback each year so as well as posting to various parts of England, there are some copies going overseas.

One of these is sent to Ian and Kathy Barnes in Western Australia (see the photograph), but this year the Society was able to save the postage as Karen and I decided to break our journey (to New Zealand) in Perth for two days last October.

While there we were able to see some of the sights, and also meet Ian and Kathy who travelled from their home in the suburbs of Perth to take us to the Gold Mint (which has a million dollar gold coin, valued at some \$Aus55 million) and the Maritime Museum in Fremantle.

Kathy and Ian left Andover several years before we arrived so we had not met previously. But some readers of the AHAS newsletter may have met Kathy (nee Hall) when she worked in Freeman Hardy and Willis – a shoe shop at the top of the High Street. FHW closed some years ago, and the shop is now being refurbished for new tenants.

Ian was well known around Andover and District as he lived in Upper Clatford. His father was a member of the parish council and known as Jim so Ian was often called Jim Junior. He worked in the Andover area, as did his sister who worked in Millward's shoe shop, then opposite FHW – which was how he met Kathy.

Kathy and Ian moved to South Hampshire in the mid '60s when Kathy was expecting twins. After some time in Shedfield (near Wickham) the family left for Australia in April 1973. Kathy's parents followed in October 1973, having lived in Andover since 1960.

Chris Coffin

Amport and the Marquesses of Winchester

The Marquesses of Winchester and their ancestors span nearly a millennium but lived in the village of Amport for just under 125 years.

One of the founders of the family is seen as Hugh de Port who was a close lieutenant of William the Conqueror during the 1066 invasion. As a reward he was given about 50 manors in Hampshire, two of which were Amport and Basing. During the 15th Century a descendant, Constance Poynings, married Sir John Paulet. Their great-grandson was created 1st Marquess of Winchester (1st M) in 1572 having been 'Controller of the Kings Household' to Henry VIII. Thus 'Paulet' became the family name of the Marquesses. The 1st M received extensive grants of monastic land in Hampshire and lived in Basing House – said to be 'greatest of any subject's house in England, yea, larger than most of the King's Palaces'.

There is little further to say until the 4th M. He had 3 sons: the first died in adolescence, the second became the 5th M and the third was Lord Henry Paulet. This was the time of the Civil War and the 5th M was a staunch Royalist. He held out for several months when Basing House was besieged but finally capitulated. The house was destroyed; he was fined and then exiled to France. His brother, Lord Henry Paulet, was a bit of an entrepreneur and bought Amport House and the estate because it was for sale when the then owner, a Royalist, had been 'compounded of delinquency' by the parliamentarians and fined £150, about 1/6 of his assets.

The 5th M returned at the time of the Restoration. He got his land back but not the money taken in fines so he was not in the 'super-rich' aristocracy such as the Sainsburys or the Devonshires and lived quietly in Basing.

His son inherited as 6th M in 1675 and was created Duke of Bolton in 1689 in return for supporting Prince William of Orange in his bid to secure the English throne. From his marriage he had inherited Castle Bolton in Yorkshire from which he took his title.

The Dukedom of Bolton became extinct after the death in 1794 of the 6th Duke (also 11th M) without an heir but the Marquessate continued via Lord Henry Paulet, the brother of the 5th M, whose great-grandson became the 12th M. The land and money of the 6th Duke were inherited by an illegitimate daughter of the 5th Duke so only the title devolved to the 12th M who inherited at the age of 66. He was the first Marquess to live in Ampport and had been a gentleman farmer; his house was probably a large farmhouse. He died in 1800 and his son became the 13th M.



He was of a different cast and thought that, as the premier Marquess of England, he needed a proper house. He therefore built the house shown; it can be seen in the picture close to the church. He lived until 1848 when his son became the 14th M. Times had changed and a Palladian house was so 'last century'. The 14th M was keen to adopt the latest fashion so demolished his father's house that had lasted less than 50 years and built the gothic revival one 300 yards to the west that is seen today from the Monxton/Grateley road. He also moved farms from the area of the house to make a kitchen garden.

He was succeeded by his son as the 15th M in 1887. His principal interests were the Army (he served in the Coldstream Guards) and horses (he extended the stables now used as houses: Ampport Mews). He was killed in 1899, serving in the Boer War, and his brother succeeded him as the 16th M.

The 16th M led an extravagant life in Edwardian England and then served in the First World War. Agricultural decline and gambling debts meant Ampport House and the estate had to be sold in 1919.

(Ampport House was owned for most of the 1920s and 1930s by Col Sofer-Whitburn; he and his wife kept it as a fashionable country house. The House was requisitioned in 1939 for use by the RAF as Maintenance Command and in 1957 they bought the House and garden. It became the centre for the RAF Chaplains until in 1996 it became the Armed Forces Chaplaincy Centre. In September 2016 it was announced that Ampport House would be put up for sale by the Ministry of Defence as part of a programme of defence estate rationalisation. *A Better Defence Estate*, published in November 2016, indicates that the site will close by 2020, with the relocation of chaplaincy services yet to be determined.)

The Marquess had subsequent unusual business dealings and finally died in 1962 at the age of 99 when he was the oldest member ever of the House of Lords.

The 16th M had no heirs so the title passed to a great-grandson of the 13th M who became the 17th M. He lived in southern Africa and, again, no money or land came with the Marquessate. His son became the 18th M in 1968, living in Rhodesia. He spoke in the House of Lords on behalf of the Rhodesian UDI and, when Mugabe came to power, he was advised to leave the country as soon as possible; he moved to South Africa. His son still lives there and became the 19th M when his father died in 2016.

This article has been written largely from secondary sources so the author would be grateful for any other information or correction of errors.

Bill Gore
ampport.archive@gmail.com

For details of events at Hampshire Record Office, Winchester, please contact
<https://www.hants.gov.uk/librariesandarchives/archives>
Phone 01962 846154

For events at Andover Museum & Museum of the Iron Age, contact
<https://www.hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk/andover-museum>
Phone 01264 366283

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 2018 edition is now available at meetings, Waterstones, Andover Museum and from the address above, price £4.50

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...

Medical Punography

Benign: what you are after you be eight

Artery: the study of paintings

Bacteria: back door to cafeteria

Caesarian section: a neighbourhood in Rome

CATscan: search for kitty

Cauterize: made eye contact with her

Dilate: to live long

Thanks again to Martin Coppen for these!