



Andover History and Archeology Society Newsletter



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www.andover-history.org.uk

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I DO HOPE you have had an enjoyable summer. We certainly had a lovely evening for our walk around Abbots Ann in June and having Tim Tayler, the village archivist, as our guide added so much interest to our visit (see images P4, P5)

In July came the good news that the Acre Almshouses were safe from demolition. This historic building has been part of the Andover townscape since 1869 and we must particularly thank David Borrett for all his efforts in the long fight to secure its future. Before redevelopment of the town centre, the almshouses had gardens but today they have an ugly sea of tarmac right up to their front doors. I do hope that, as well as the interior refurbishment, some attention will be given to improving their setting so that they continue to make an appropriate contribution to the Andover Conservation Area.

Andover lost many of its old buildings and much of its character to unsympathetic redevelopment in the 1960s and 1970s so it is especially welcome that TVBC views the town's heritage as a key element in its current plans to regenerate and renew the town centre. During the summer, it took the first step to secure funding through Historic England's High Streets Heritage Action Zones and a letter from the Society supported that.

Now I'm looking forward to the first meeting of our new season on 27 September. Our speaker will be our own John Isherwood whose talk about The Pentons is based on many years of research into the history of the villages.

And finally, a reminder to come to the next meeting with £4.50 in your pocket to buy a copy of the latest **Lookback** which will be published that day. As always, it is full of interesting, illustrated articles about the people and history of our local area.

Erica Tinsley

AHAS Upcoming events 2019

- September 27 The Pentons
 John Isherwood
- October 25 Water in Hampshire
 Jill Hind
- November 22 Red Rice
 Dianne Rawlings
- December 13 Members' talks
 N.B. This meeting will be on the 2nd Friday of the month not
 the usual 4th Friday

and events 2020

- January 24 Amport
 Bill Gore
- February 28 The Rise and Fall of Henry Barnes - Horse Dealer
 David Snow
- March 27 The Old Lady and Hurstbourne Park: The Bank of England
 in Wartime Hampshire
 Alison Deveson
 also AGM will be held on March 27
- April 24 Dacre Lecture at the Weyhill Fairground Hall
 Winchester Cathedral and its Associations
 Prof Michael Wheeler

Regular meetings are held in the Andover Guildhall, and visitors are always welcome.

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An Editor's Legacy

Many of you will have known Derek Tempero both as a friend and as a member of the Society. He was a 'local lad' who joined the Andover Advertiser from school as a trainee reporter in 1939

His local history columns, Bystander and Countryman, were very popular and over the years he collected material through his own research and through items sent to him. Before his death in 2013, he made sure that things of importance were deposited with Hampshire Record Office. His family has given the remaining material to AHAS. Your committee members are currently going through it and will update you on progress.

This article from the Andover Advertiser will surely strike a chord with many members:

Long-serving former weekly editor dies at 91

by Nick Brimacombe Published 03 Dec 2013 AA

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A long-serving journalist who worked for the same weekly paper for nearly 50 years has died at the age of 91.

Derek Tempero worked on the Hampshire-based Andover Advertiser for 48 years including 15 years as editor.

He joined the paper from school as a trainee reporter in 1939 but national service with the RAF took him to India and Burma between 1942 and 1946.

Derek's love of journalism saw him return to the Advertiser news room after his travels and from 1949, he held the combined roles of chief reporter and sports editor until taking over the editorial chair in 1967.

For many years his two local history columns – Bystander and Countryman – were a favourite among the many Andoverians keen to unfold the town's history and that of their families.



Derek Tempero on his retirement day in 1987



Village walk





Abbotts Ann

AHAS in C21

Thanks to Andrew Hobley, AHAS now has a FACEBOOK page.

For those of you who know about social media.....inside Facebook go to:
Andover History and Archaeology Society - and like us!



Information about our monthly talks will be posted on Facebook along with other items of interest. Don't worry, you will still get news via e-mail or snail mail.

Out of Town Events

- October 19 Hampshire Cultural Trust
Winchester and the Norman Conquest
A one day symposium. See their website for details.
- November 9 The CBA Wessex 2019 Conference. This year is in
collaboration with Bournemouth University and
Wessex Archaeology. "Sunrise Over the Stones:
Recent Research into Neolithic and Chalcolithic
Wessex" Tickets still available.

Lookback

Do come along to the next meeting and buy the new, hot off the press, Lookback from our bookstall. If it inspires you to make a contribution to next year's edition, the publication team would love to hear from you. Contact David Borrett; d.borrett@ntlworld.com

Brenda Mole, who runs the bookstall every month, is expecting to do a roaring trade, so it would be a great help if customers had their £4.50 at the ready!

The Vikings

King Alfred and his War Against the Great Heathen Army

Stephen Whelan gave members a great insight into King Alfred and Viking attacks in Wessex when he addressed the May meeting.

Clear maps showing the Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms, the 20 known battle sites from York to Exeter, the campaigns of the Great Heathen Army from 865 - 871, and a detailed map of the Eddington campaign of 878 which effected Wessex, were handed out prior to the talk and provided useful references to help understand the subject better.

Mr Whelan obviously had an in-depth knowledge of his subject and was able to talk off the cuff about the complex movements of armies and battles, and strategies; he also kept his audience's alive with anecdotes and legends, around the hard facts.

He certainly caught the attention of members when he not only described what a gory place the battlefield was, but gave a demonstration of the use of a shield and how to kill with a seax; he then proceeded to wield a broadsword above his head in fighting stance!

A Snippet from the Records Office

5 Apr 1554: **License for life** to Stephen Smyth of Andover, 'inhoulder', to sell by retail any wines to be drunk in his mansion house or houses within the said town, which is a market town and a great thoroughfare for the west parts of the realm.
English. By p.s. [Calendar of Patent Rolls, 1 & 2 Philip and Mary Vol.II, 1554-1555 (London, 1936)]

It is nice to be reminded of the geographical importance of Andover!
(Cheers Martin!)

Thanks

Sincere thanks to all who have contributed to this newsletter, including Erica Tinsley, Martin Coppen.

Editor: Sue McPartlan