



Look Around

*A look at historical & archaeological issues in
Andover*

and the surrounding villages.

2015 Number 2, May

*“Look Around” is the newsletter of the
ANDOVER HISTORY & ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY*

www.andover-history.org.uk

Note from the Chair

Since the last Newsletter we have had our AGM. I am delighted to welcome Clifford Williams to the committee and grateful to the existing members of the committee who are continuing for another year.

We are already thinking about the programme for 2016. I would love to hear from you if you have any ideas, if there is a speaker would like to hear or if you would be willing to give a talk yourself. My email is erica.tinsley@btinternet.com

The Society's meetings and publications are its public face but, of course, work also goes on behind the scenes. During the early months of this year, this has included efforts to safeguard the original painting *Andover Canal below Rooksbury Mill 1833* which is the only extant picture of Andover Canal. The picture belongs to HCC and was hanging in the Manager's office at Andover Library out of public sight. Following our request for it to be given a more secure home, it has been transferred to the HCC special collections at Chilcomb House and digital copies are being made available to Andover Library and Andover Museum for public display.

Other important work that goes on behind the scenes is Martin Coppen's maintenance of our website and you may have experienced a few hiccups when using the site recently. This is because, with the help of Chris Berragan who originally set up our site, we are transferring to a new host company. We hope all will be running smoothly very soon.

Erica

The members of the Committee are:

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

AHAS Programme

(All meetings will take place at 7.30 pm unless noted otherwise)

22 May 2015. Venue: Andover Guildhall

Alix Booth

The History of Punch & Judy

Alix Booth has worked with Mr Punch for over thirty years. Her talk is given through the puppets, with accompanying slides. Punch represents the common man fighting the small battles of life. The characters in the traditional show are just the ones that would have beset him 1760-1830 when the story, as we know it today, was developed.

26 June 2015. Village Walk. This year's walk will be around the village of **Thruxton**.

25 September 2015 Venue: Andover Guildhall.

Dr Ellie Pridgeon, Tutor in Art History and Architecture at the University of Leicester

Medieval Wall Painting in Hampshire Churches

This talk will examine some of the key medieval wall paintings in Hampshire churches, including Nether Wallop, Breamore, Bramley and St John's church, Winchester. It will provide an overview of the more prevalent images in the medieval church - such as St Christopher, St George, the Sunday Christ and the Three Living and Three Dead - and consider how they were used by medieval viewers.

23 October 2015 Venue: Andover Guildhall

Simon Cleggat

Andover Archaeology

Simon Cleggat of Salisbury-based Wessex Archaeology will be speaking about excavations at Chantry Street and Shepherds Spring Lane.

November and December 2015 talks: to be finalised.

Recent Meetings

At the Society's meeting on **23 January**, **Chris Sellen** spoke enthusiastically as an ambassador for WARG, our neighbouring society, which promotes the study of archaeology and local history in the City of Winchester and the surrounding area. He painted a vivid picture of the Society's active engagement in archaeological excavation, especially since 2006, in which he had personally taken part.

The main studies had been at St Cross, with extensive investigation in the park south of the Hospital, and St Elizabeth's College, in the grounds of Winchester College. Through these years, WARG had gained considerable experience of conducting excavations in a highly professional manner, with the support of Winchester and Southampton Universities and many volunteers.

At St Cross, after the preliminary geophysics and work on historical maps, and then trial digs, evidence was discovered of the south range of the hospital precinct, and the Lockburn stream sewer. This had been diverted into a water feature, which at one time was a fish pond but later filled in with rubble from building works. Anglo-Saxons pits were also discovered on the boundary ditch. New buildings were also found, one possibly stock pens, and the brewhouse. Investigation then continued in the 'bowling green' east of the church, in the search for the original hospital foundation by Bishop Henry de Blois, c.1136. These more recent excavations revealed a long, high status building running north-south, built from Quarr limestone and therefore dated before 1185. One volunteer had the very good fortune to discover a tiled floor in his first two hours of digging.

St Elizabeth's College was a chantry chapel founded in 1301. In this field south of Winchester College, the high water table required the building of a raft foundation, in this case, of compressed chalk which the excavation revealed. The chapel had been as tall as the surviving College Chapel.

WARG has responsibility for the archive and finds, the latter being lodged with Winchester Museums Service.

The excavations had engaged a large number of volunteers, and annual open days brought many hundred visitors. In addition, WARG offers lectures, visits, field walking opportunities. The programme is on www.warg.org.uk.

Chris Sellen's presentation was interesting in showing how archaeological work could be carried out very effectively by an amateur society, though the presence of both available sites and local university expertise enhanced opportunity and credibility.

It is worth saying, as Chris did not because his theme was archaeology rather than history, that both St Cross and Winchester College had considerable influence in the Andover area during medieval times, through their very extensive land ownership and church patronage.

Martin Coppen

At its meeting on Friday, **27 February** the Society warmly welcomed **Phoebe Merrick**, chair of its sister Romsey Local History Society. Phoebe gave a lively presentation, illustrated by contemporary photographs and paintings, of the history of the Army Remount Service, with a special bearing on the Depot at Romsey. The Service was responsible for providing trained transport horses for the Army. Founded in 1887 to bring together procurement which had previously been the responsibility of individual regiments, it supplied over 500,000 horses in the Boer War. However, during that conflict, so many horses died through poor treatment during transportation, let alone in battle, that it was recognised that new approach was needed to improve the animals' lives and welfare.

The First World War was the last conflict in which there were more horses than machines. The Remount Service made preparations by introducing a registration and classification system for a reserve of 7,000 working horses in this country. The number of horses estimated necessary for the war was 110,000. On the outbreak of war, the Remount Service acquired 140,000 in just 12 days.

Learning the lessons from the losses of the Boer War, this time a well-thought out supply chain was established mainly from the American mid-West. From there, travelling by rail to the eastern ports, and then by ship across the Atlantic, the horses and mules were well-fed, given adequate rest and supervised by vets throughout the long journey. From Devonport or occasionally Southampton, men from Romsey Remount Depot met the horses and brought them by rail to the town.

The Romsey Depot, on 500 acres leased from Broadlands, was staffed by over 2100 men, looking after 5000 horses and mules at any one time. One man would care for three horses, exercising and feeding them seven times daily. Most horses, when they were trained, were taken under the same welfare regime via Southampton to Remount Depots in coastal France, and then into action at the Front as transport animals. The peak number of horses in service was recorded in June 1917 when there were 460,000 horses on the Front, but that was also the month with the highest proportion of losses, 28%. By the time it closed in 1919, over 120,000 horses and mules had passed through Romsey Remount Depot.

At the end of War, the remaining horses were gradually sold off and the camp wound down. The buildings were sold and the land returned to farmland. Hardcore from the Depot demolition was used to raise the level of the ground in the meadow which became the Romsey War Memorial Park. In commemoration of the Depot, a newly commissioned bronze War Horse Statue will be placed in the Park, to be unveiled in July. Phoebe has published a booklet about the Romsey Remount Depot which is available through the Romsey Society's website www.ltvas.org.uk.

Martin Coppen

The **March** meeting in The Guildhall consisted of the charity's very brief AGM and an illustrated talk by **Erica Tinsley**, newly re-elected as Chair of the Society, on *Britain from Above*. In her report she paid tribute to Tony Raper, founder member, who resigned from the committee during the year. His contribution both to keeping the Society going over the years and to published Andover history has been outstanding.

Aerofilms Ltd was Britain's first commercial aerial photography company founded in 1919. In the course of its history it produced some 1.26m oblique aerial photo negatives which were bought for the nation by English Heritage in 2007. After conservation, digitisation and cataloguing, the earliest 95,000 images in the Aerofilms Collection (1919-53) have now been made freely available online on the Britain from Above website. The originals are in specialist archival storage at the National Monuments Record (NMR) in Swindon.

Erica outlined the early development of aerial photography from Nadar's 1858 aerial balloon flight views of Paris to fixed wing photo-surveillance improved during World War 1. In 1919, celebrity pioneer aviator Claude Graham-White, one of the first pilots to be licensed in England, teamed up with Francis Lewis Wills, who had been an Observer with the Royal Naval Air Service during the War, to form Aerofilms. Early pictures were mainly oblique still photographs, though they also worked with pioneer cinematographer Claude Friese-Greene. Between the wars, the company pioneered the science of photogrammetry (mapping from vertical aerial photographs), their clients including the Ordnance Survey. In 1940, the company was co-opted into the RAF, becoming the Photographic Interpretation Unit. Here its technical ability was improved by the Australian Sidney Cotton who pioneered the techniques of high-altitude, high-speed stereoscopic photography. After the War, the firm continued its work, especially in mapping, being most recently taken over by the Norwegian geographical information company, Blom, in 2005.

Pictures shown of Andover in the 1920s and 1940s, and of national events from the *Britain from Above* website gave members some idea of the quality of what is available and whetted their appetites to search the wider collection. Website — www.britainfromabove.org.uk .

Martin Coppen

The Dacre Lecture 2015

Introducing his lecture, *Law, Death and Peace-making in the Tenth Century*, Dr Ryan Lavelle, Reader in Medieval History at the University of Winchester, spoke of the moment when he was visiting Andover Museum as a young student and realised that national and international history could have a local relevance. He then developed that insight by placing the international event of the peace-making Confirmation of the Viking Olaf Tryggvason in Andover in 993/4 into its local frame. Focussing on the individuals involved, he argued that it is possible to understand the relations between the West Saxons and Vikings better.

Although the King, Æthelred II (Ethelred 'the Unready', reigned 978-1016), sponsored the Viking's confirmation, Dr Lavelle concentrated on the role in the event of Æthelweard, Ealdorman (nobleman ruling a large area, subject to the king) of South Wessex. Æthelweard encouraged the renaissance of learning, and as an historian himself wrote the Latin version of the Anglo-Saxon Chronicles.

The Treaty of Andover followed Viking attacks on London and the south coast. A preliminary peace agreement was negotiated and then the Vikings wintered at Southampton. Olaf was brought from there to Andover 'with much ceremony' by Bishop Ælfheah (Alphege) of Winchester and Æthelweard. From his research, Dr Lavelle suggested that Æthelweard had a fine ear for the Norse language, was already experienced in peace-making and recognised the political value of Confirmation. After the recent deaths of the other ealdormen, Æthelweard was now the senior in the south. Olaf had previously been baptized (in Scandinavia?) and the Confirmation conducted by Bishop Ælfheah created a binding relationship between Olaf and Æthelweard as his spiritual sponsor/god-parent. Authority was delegated by the King to ealdormen to buy peace at a local level. Olaf came to England as a subordinate chief, and for an ambitious man such as he was, his Confirmation might mark a significant step towards the Viking throne, using the Anglo-Saxon style of kingship.

Why Andover? Probably the town, which already had royal connections, was chosen rather than Winchester, because of the risks of showing off the wealthy city to a heavyweight Viking chief. Since the preparation for Confirmation would also offer ample time for the noble pursuits of hunting and feasting, the royal lodge at

Andover would be a suitable venue for social bonding between confirmand and spiritual kinsman. The route from Southampton up to Andover would be a pleasant excursion.

Dr Lavelle then proposed a link between the 54 executed bodies discovered on the path of the new Weymouth relief road in 2009 on Ridgeway Hill, Dorset and the peace-making of Æthelred. It was possible, he argued, that they were the crew of a ship which contravened the peace agreement, the site being in view of the sea. It was ealdorman Æthelweard who had responsibility in case of such breaches of the peace.

The very full audience at the Weyhill Fairground Hall on 24 April greatly appreciated the scholarly knowledge shared by Dr Lavelle about this local event of over 1000 years ago, which had both national and international importance. The lecture was a fitting tribute to the memory of Max Dacre (1910-1990) who had undertaken many rescue excavations at the time of Andover's redevelopment to help gain an understanding of the town's early history.

Martin Coppen

Events of Interest

Andover Museum

Activities, all at Andover Museum Telephone: 01264 366283, www.hants.gov.uk/andover-museum.

10:00am Saturday 25 Apr 2015 to Saturday 30 May 2015

Fifty pupils from four Education Centres in Hampshire have worked with a variety of professional artists over the Autumn term. This exhibition is a collection of their original artwork, including print, sculpture, textiles and willow work. The young people are from around Eastleigh, Farnborough, Andover and the New Forest, aged between 13-16. Cost: Free Admission

10:30am Thursday 14 May 2015

Bring your little ones along to see Treehouse Theatre retelling the story of the Gingerbread Man!

Run, run as fast as you can! This classic story always delights a younger audience.

This workshop isn't just story telling though.....Action songs, drama, costumes, story-making and music all rolled into an action packed, creative and imaginative hour.

Age guide 2+

Children £5.00 (adults free!)

Limited spaces. Pre booking recommended.

All children must be accompanied by an adult.

10:00am Thursday 28 May 2015

Join us to create a model of a First World War lorry. Then work with Broken Physics Productions to bring it to life with the power of stop motion animation. You will learn the basics of story writing, stop motion, voiceover and special effects to create your own 1-2 minute film.

£10 per accompanied child (Suitable for ages 8-12 years). Pre-booking essential.

1:30pm Wednesday 29 Jul 2015

Paul Stickland, is an author, artist, illustrator and designer of many very popular children's picture and pop up books.

His dynamic, fun and inspiring events and workshops are designed to empower and engage children using some of their favourite subjects, Roaring Dinosaurs and Monster Pop Up Books!

He is the creator of many bestselling books, including Dinosaur Roar, Ten Terrible Dinosaurs, Dinosaurs Galore, The Christmas Bear, One Bear One Dog, A Number of Dinosaurs, Swamp Stomp,

Truck Jam, Big Dig, Big Bug Little Bug. £10 per child - children must be accompanied by an adult (adult goes free). Pre-booking essential.

Hampshire Record Office Events

Ongoing Exhibitions:

Bronzes for the world: the Morris Singer Foundry Wednesday 01 Apr 2015 to Monday 08 Jun 2015

Free exhibition on the history of the Morris Singer Foundry, which has cast bronzes for many of the world's leading sculptors including Henry Moore, Barbara Hepworth and Elisabeth Frink. The foundry was located in Basingstoke from 1967 to 1999 and is now operating at Lasham.

Magna Carta and Hampshire Thursday 11 Jun 2015 to Wednesday 30 Sep 2015 Exhibition to mark 800 years of Magna Carta produced by The Odiham Society in conjunction with Hampshire Record Office.

Last Thursday Lectures: Free lunchtime talks in the Hampshire Record Office cinema, 1.15-1.45pm, no booking required

Romsey Remount Depot 1:15pm Thursday 28 May 2015

Romsey Remount Depot by Phoebe Merrick of Romsey Local History Society

Flora Thompson in Hampshire 1:15pm Thursday 25 Jun 2015

Author and poet Flora Thompson's Hampshire connection by John Owen Smith

Eastleigh casualty hospital 1:15pm Thursday 30 Jul 2015

Eastleigh casualty hospital by John Lankaster

Forgotten Wrecks of the First World War 1:15pm Thursday 27 Aug 2015

Forgotten Wrecks of the First World War by Stephen Fisher

Huguenot Hero - Henri Portal 1:15pm Thursday 24 Sep 2015

A Huguenot Hero - Henri Portal talk and film show by Mark Pitchforth

Courses at Hampshire Record Office To book, Telephone: 01962 846154

Family history for beginners 2:00pm Thursday 11 Jun 2015

Find your ancestors in the archives. Discover the main sources available and how to use them. All you need to know to begin researching your family tree. 2-4pm

Cost: £13 per person. Booking required

Reading old handwriting (beginners) 2:00pm Thursday 07 May 2015

Handwritten archives are often difficult to read, particularly those dating back centuries. Strange spellings, unfamiliar script and archaic terms can make deciphering their true meaning a challenge. This workshop will help you crack the code. 2-4pm

Cost: £13 per person. Advanced booking required

Archive Ambassador Training Day 10:00am Wednesday 26 Aug 2015

Archive Ambassador Training Days include sessions on cataloguing archive collections, the conservation and preservation of archives, digital archives and oral history recording. By signing up you also receive a year's free membership of Hampshire Archives Trust and a handbook which includes further information on more specialist areas such as copyright issues, the preservation of film and sound archive material and exhibitions.

Our hope is that by training up individuals from across the county in the best practices of archival care not only will this help with specific projects that the individual might be working on such as caring for a village, society or personal archive collection but they can also act as an ambassador in their local community passing on this knowledge to others, encouraging people to deposit records with Hampshire Record Office if appropriate and making sure that any records kept locally are looked after appropriately to ensure their long term preservation. The programme for the day (10am-3.30pm) includes the following sessions:-

- Keeping paper clips at bay: Effective but simple ways to help preserve collections. What are the main risks? How do we prevent these? What help is available?
- Cataloguing collections: What are archives ? How do we set up a collection? Practical tips and advice on how to organise and catalogue your material.
- Going Live: Creating digital records and making collections e-accessible, session includes practical tips on how to get the best from your scans and what type of formats to save your material on.
- Oral History Recording: A beginners guide to the collection of oral history recordings.

To book a place contact Hampshire Record Office on 01962 846154.

Cost: £18 per person, advanced booking required

Uncover the history of your house 2:00 - 4.00 pm Thursday 18 Jun 2015 Discover the stories housed in the collection of bricks and mortar you call home. When was it built? What was it used for? Who lived there? Find out how to use archive sources to answer these questions and more.

Cost: £13 per person. Advanced booking required

Latin for beginners 2:00pm Thursday 08 Oct 2015

Carpe Diem! Seize the day and sign up to this workshop to learn to read Latin in old documents. 2-4pm

Cost £13 per person. Advanced booking required

Penton Players Amateur Dramatic Society proudly presents

PENTON'S HEROES

Those at war and those at home

Based on local historian Rod Eggington's book of the same name, which has been adapted for performance. It is professionally directed by Emma Golby-Kirk from Now Heritage.

Discover the part Penton played in the First World War, the men who went to fight from here, and the women left behind on the home front.

This is a new production, performed in the round so you feel part of the action. There will be tears and laughter, and a ploughman's meal thrown in! An entertaining and uplifting evening guaranteed.

Friday 15th May 8:00 p.m.

Saturday 16th May 2:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m.

Penton Village Hall. Bar and Meal. Tickets £10

Contact 01264 773221 or any Player for your tickets

Clifford Williams has drawn our attention to the following Youtube film, *100 Years of Women in Policing* which among other people features our committee member June Harris who was a clerk at the Andover Police Station. She joined in January 1945 when most of the men were away fighting and many older girls were away for other war work. Do watch this if you can.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ot7H45MZrIE>

Thanks to Martin Coppen who spotted this recently in the Hampshire Record Office ...

TripAdvisor Review: Andover 1782



1 review

HRO 95M88/1 A Ride into the West, journal kept by John Byng, Viscount Torrington, copiously illustrated by engravings and printed maps, 23 Aug-9 Sep 1782

The journey (by horse) begins at Hyde Park, London, and continues across Surrey to Farnham and north Hampshire, then to Winchester, Romsey, Ringwood, and into Dorset (Weymouth, Blandford) returning via Salisbury, Andover, Basingstoke and Woburn (Bucks). Entries are very full. At back is a summary of the journey with the number of miles covered on each day.

[Friday, Sep^{tr} 6th 1782] ... from Salisbury The Road continues very open, steep and unpleasant, without any Object to amuse the Attention : In the way I met Mr C, and saw a party of Shooters ; Then the Thoughts of Hunting employ'd me till my Arrival at Andover, ... where I made a long stay, and dined very uncomfortably ___ In all this Road the Stables are very bad, from the universal Fashion to go Post ; The higher that is taxed the better, and then good Road Horses again may be had, and good Stabling again may be found. ___ I prolonged my Stay here till the latest, in hopes of getting a Return Chaise for Jock, and to avoid the Heat.

I never dined worse, or was in a crosser humour about it ; a little miserable Stale Trout, some raw, rank, Mutton Chops and some cold, hard Potatoes. ___ For the sake of hasty Gain, Innkeepers hire horrid Servants, buy bad Provisions, and poisonous Liquors ; Wou'd any Man dare, with a large capital to set up A good Inn, with the best Beds, and Wine, He woud get a Fortune, let him charge ever so highly. I am more and more convinc'd that Fowls are the only things to bespeak at an Inn, as every other dish is either ill-dress'd, or the leavings of other Companies.

§ at Andover was a Cell, belonging to St Florence of Saumurs.

[Saturday, Sep^{tr} 7th.] My first intention was to have bedded at Overton, but hoping to find better accommodation at Basingstoke, I push'd forward : My Horse went well, and my poor dog with difficulty crawl'd along. ___ The Road from Andover is, in many places, not unpleasant. ___ L^d Portsmouth has lately built, in Hurstbourne park, a large new House, instead of the old one that stood near The Road : The new House seems to be neither well-placed, nor of a good Model ; for I am not of the present taste of clapping Houses upon Hill-tops, looking around them, in vain for Wood and Water. ___ Whitchurch is a mean Borough Town, where I saw many Dutch Prisoners. ___ Two Miles from Whitchurch is the cool-looking Village of Laverstock ; and further on, the little dirty Town of Overton, where Silk Mills have been lately erected, that seem to bring benefit to the Place.

I allways pass with Regret a House at a small distance from the Road, whose last owner (Mr B) I much esteem'd and where I have been well receiv'd ; _ But now I ride by ___ Tho' I am as zealous of Relationship as can be, and would go as far as cou'd be to serve one : But the present Dowager Possessor, an artfull worldly Woman, of a notable self-sufficient capacity, is not selon mon gout ; and her Son is little better than a blockhead. ___

I arrived at Basingstoke at 7 o'clock, where I found an Inn of good Fare, and had a Sole and a Rabbit for Supper. [*continued*]

Thanks to Hampshire Record Office for permission to reprint this extract

Overland Trade Project

On this website there is a very rich collection of facts about commodities, carters and local recipients of goods transported to Andover (and many other places) through Southampton in the period 1430-1540. For instance, it names 204 Andover residents of the period and the deliveries each received of everything from almonds, to eels, herring and sprats, to garlic, iron and tar. The data has been extracted from Southampton brokage books which list the tolls exacted at the city's still impressive Bargate. The website is found on: www.overlandtrade.org/.

Don't forget to visit our own website: www.andover-history.org.uk

We have had the following query via the website:

“I am trying to find out when the post office in Bridge Street was built and opened. Would anyone from the Society have any information? I should be most grateful.”

If you can help, please email andoverhistory@gmail.com

AHAS Publications (All of these publications may be ordered from the Society c/o Mill Pound Cottage, Monxton, Andover. SP11 8AW or purchased at our monthly meetings, from the Museum and from Waterstones)

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

Saint Mary's Church, Andover (2005) 20 pp £2.00

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 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