



Look Around

*A look at historical & archaeological issues in
Andover*

and the surrounding villages.

2015 Number 3, September

“Look Around” is the newsletter of the

ANDOVER HISTORY & ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY

www.andover-history.org.uk

Note from the Chair

I thoroughly enjoyed this year's summer walk around Thruxton. It made me realise just how much local historians and archaeologists have added to my enjoyment of our part of Hampshire, which has so much to offer in both scenery and historical interest. Now, I am looking forward to our autumn programme, to less gardening and to having more time to spend on my own small pieces of research.

If you have something that interests you and that you are researching, David Borrett would like to hear from you because he is always on the lookout for contributions to *Lookback*. The journal enables us to fulfil one of the Society's main objectives - to get pieces of local research into print and 'out there' for posterity and for everyone to use.

The next edition of *Lookback* will be on sale at our September meeting so remember to bring along your £3.50 to buy a copy – it is, as always, a good read.

Publications are an important part of what we do but the way people buy books and our sales opportunities are changing so, over the summer, your committee and the publications sub-committee have been jointly reviewing the whole subject. Andover Museum is our main sales outlet and we intend that, in the future, our books will be designed to compete amongst the much wider range of material on display there.

A familiar face will be missing from Andover Museum at the start of September because Emma Smith has accepted a teaching post at Basingstoke College. We have greatly appreciated her help and support over the last few years and wish her well in her new job.

Erica

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 Secretary)	

Lookback at Andover:

The editor of *Lookback*, David Borrett, is asking more of us to get involved:

As you will all know, the Society publishes its annual journal *Lookback at Andover* each September and members look forward to purchasing their copy. Since 1990 it has included a huge range of local history articles, all written by amateur historians who have wanted to write up the research they have been doing and see it published.

Amongst our members there must be many who are pursuing their own historical interests and research but have never considered submitting an article for the magazine. If that is you, please reconsider. We are currently in search of articles for next year's edition and it would be interesting to receive something from new writers who have never sent anything in before. Length can be anything from 1000 – 4000 words and can include illustrations. A glance at previous years' issues will show the sort of form that they take.

Prospective articles can be sent to the editor at d.borrett@ntlworld.com or even if you just have the germ of an idea, get in touch and we can go from there.

David Borrett

AHAS Programme

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

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.

27 November 2015 Venue: Andover Guildhall

To be confirmed

11 December 2015 Venue: Andover Guildhall. Christmas Meeting

Clifford Williams

100 years of women in Andover Policing

Recent Meetings

At the May meeting in the Guildhall the society's members were entertained as well as enlightened by Alix Booth, a professional Punch and Judy performer, on the history of their puppet plays. Mr Punch is far older than most people realise. On 9 May 1662 Samuel Pepys recorded seeing an Italian puppet play in Covent Garden which is thought to have featured Punchinello from whom he is derived; puppeteers still keep that date as Mr Punch's birthday. In England he soon became the rascally Mr Punch, forever fighting both his wife and officialdom as well as the devil and all his works. Originally these puppet plays were welcomed in churches but in time their comic element became too boisterous to be acceptable, so Mr Punch was forced to perform in the market place instead. There he was free to satirise all manner of people and contemporary situations.

On her traditional puppet stage Alix Booth had Mr Punch dealing with one character after another from his repertoire, usually with the vigorous use of his stick. There was poor Judy of course (and later her ghost), Pretty Poll his girlfriend, Toby the dog (originally an actual dog rather than a puppet), Joseph Grimaldi the clown, the crocodile eating the string of sausages, the policeman and then the hangman - his fatal demonstration of how to put one's head in the noose was greeted with the same laughter that it has always produced at the end of a Punch and Judy show.

Towards the end of Victorian times Punch and Judy shows started to decline in popularity. However, Mr Punch went off to perform at the newly popular seaside beaches, where he quickly became a welcome part of the scene for visitors arriving by train at bank holidays and other times.

Mr Punch in person (impossible to think of him as a glove puppet) was the star of the evening. However, Alix finished by showing various slides to show his development from Italian and French Punchinello characters, as well as later cartoons and other illustrations of the well loved shows.

Diana Coldicott

On 26 June, twenty-four members met hosts John and Ann McKenzie at the War Memorial Hall for this year's summer event, a Village Walk around Thruxton. Outside the Hall, itself a former Methodist Chapel, Ann gave a brief introduction to the village's history, from late Bronze and Iron Age settlement, to the Romano-British presence evidenced by the important Thruxton mosaic (British Museum, Room 49), through to its mention in the Domesday survey. Later variously called Turkilleston, Throkeleston, Thruckleston, the village grew from around 200 inhabitants in 1841 to 620 now, with considerable development between 1961 and 1980.

The walk then took the group up past a number of historically interesting houses to the Manor House to meet Chris Rome, its present owner, who led a thoughtful tour round his estate. While the manor house dates from the 17th century, it incorporates medieval timberwork also evident in the delightful garden shed. Where was the medieval manor house, which was said to have been burnt down in the 18th century? The early 20th century Hampshire archaeologist, Williams-Freeman, located what he described as a 'Defended Manor House', moated and with ramparts, north-west of the present house and church, in a field with many 'humps and bumps'. Stone fragments suggest it was a substantial building. Certainly, during the lordship of the wealthy de Lisle family (c.1400-1542), the house was impressive enough to receive King Henry VIII and Jane Seymour. Other visitors were Thomas Cromwell and Elizabeth I. Later, under the Philpott family (1542-c.1650) and successive owners, the manor declined. In 1941, the Air Ministry acquired the farm of 600 acres and the farmland was turned into an airfield; the house becoming the officers' mess. The racing circuit now forms the airfield. The house with about 12 acres was returned to private ownership in 1979.

The manor estate surrounded the church, around which Ann then guided the party. It dates from at least the 13th century, though was expensively reordered in 1843-9. The most recent alteration was the removal of the font from the inconvenient bell-tower (rebuilt 1800) to the west corner of the north aisle with the vivid restoration of its cover. The main historical interest of the church, however, lies in the chancel with three impressive memorials to the de Lisle family: the chantry chapel and tomb (1524), with arches by Thomas Bertie, master mason of Winchester Cathedral, a floor brass (1407) and wall tomb (1506-10). Recently Dr Nicholas Riall, archaeologist and art historian, has established that the wall tomb was also carved by the Winchester Cathedral workshop, but subjected to vigorous 'Victorian meddling'. There is also a defaced oak carved effigy of Lady Philpott (died 1616) behind the chancel stalls and possibly the oldest military effigy in England, a coffin slab of 1200, inside the tower.

Appreciative thanks for a fascinating evening were paid to our guides, who warmly encouraged members to visit again and take a longer look at this enchanting and richly historic village.

Martin Coppen

Events of Interest

News from Andover Museum & Museum of the Iron Age

Andover Museum is now run by the Hampshire Cultural Trust. Read the new Strategic Plan which can be found at <http://hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk/content/transforming-culture-hampshire>

Activities, all at Andover Museum Telephone: 01264 366283, hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk/andover-museum.

Found in the Field Exhibition

26 September – 14 November

Beautiful hand-drawn lithographs by Carry Akroyd incorporating poems by John Clare. Free

Lino Printing Workshop

7 November

10am-4pm

Take inspiration from *Found in the Field* and join artist Emma Hobbs for an all day workshop to learn the art of lino printing.

For over 16s

£30.00 per participant (concession rates applicable).

Please book your place in advance to avoid disappointment as there will be limited spaces.

Hidden Treasure - an Art Exhibition by Roma Nichol

21 November – 16 January

From the history beneath our feet, to the *spirit* side of Nature, "Hidden Treasure" is an exploration in Batik, and a variety of mixed media. Local artist and medium, Roma Nichol, seeks to depict the esoteric aspects of the natural world, and the interconnection between all living things through her work.

Join Roma Nichol for an upcoming Batik workshop at Andover Museum. For further details please check our website.

Family Printing Workshop

27 October

11am-1pm, 2pm-4pm

Have fun as a family making your own prints at Andover Museum this half term. Make your own book of prints and create your own printing design using our special polystyrene printing tiles.

Drop-in activity, no need to book.

£2.50 per kit (includes book for printing and 1 printing tile).

Suitable for ages 7+. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Treehouse Theatre Presents.....Family Storytelling

28 October

Times TBC

Treehouse Theatre is coming back to Andover Museum to bring stories to life! Join in with action songs, drama, costumes, story-making and music all rolled into an action packed and imaginative hour.

Adults £4.00, children £2.50 (family ticket available).

Please book in advance to avoid disappointment.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Andover Museum by Torchlight

28 October

5.30pm – 8pm

Explore our museum displays and follow our special trail in the dark at our annual Torchlight event! Not for the faint hearted!

Please bring your own torch.

Drop-in, no need to book.

£3.50 per person (includes cup of hot chocolate)

Hampshire Record Office Events

Exhibitions, at the Record Office unless otherwise indicated:

Until 30 Sep 2015

Magna Carta and Hampshire: Exhibition to mark 800 years of Magna Carta produced by The Odiham Society in conjunction with Hampshire Record Office

1 Oct 2015-4 Jan 2016 (downstairs in foyer)

Hampshire Commemorates: Exhibition which was launched in the Great Hall last year on the centenary of Britain entering the First World War

6 Oct 2015-4 Jan 2016 (top floor landing)

175 years 1840-2015, World-Leading, Values-Driven Higher Education: Exhibition marking the 175th anniversary of the foundation of the Diocesan Training College, now the University of Winchester

Lunchtime lectures: last Thursday of each month (except Dec), 1.15-1.45pm, no need to book. Free, donations welcomed.

24 Sep: A Huguenot Hero, Henri Portal - talk and film show - by Mark Pitchforth

29 Oct: Their name liveth evermore - War memorials - by Heather Needham

26 Nov: Alice in Lyndhurst - marking the 150th anniversary of the first publication of Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll - by Angela Trend

Courses

Family history for beginners. £13, booking essential: 01962 846154

Practical advice and help in starting your family history research: discover the main sources available and how to use them; access material on microfiche/film with staff on hand to answer any questions. All you need to know to begin

researching your family tree. 3 Sep, 1 Oct, 5 Nov 2-4pm, 22 Sep, 27 Oct, 24 Nov 6-8pm (you only need to attend one session).

Reading old handwriting workshops. £13, booking essential: 01962 846154

Beginners - 10 Sep, 2-4pm

Next steps - 17 Sep, 2-4pm

Was your ancestor a soldier? £13, booking essential: 01962 846154

Workshop on tracing army ancestors. 25 Sep, 1 Dec 2-4pm (you only need to attend one session).

Latin for beginners. £13, booking essential: 01962 846154

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

8 Oct, 2-4pm

Uncover the history of your house. £13, booking essential: 01962 846154

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. 22 Oct, 2-4pm

Using school archives for historical research. £13, booking essential: 01962 846154

How to use school records, such as log books, admission registers etc for your historical research. 3 Nov, 2-4pm

Interpreting title deeds as a source for local and family history workshop. £13, booking essential: 01962 846154

19 Nov, 10.30am-1pm

The Archive Ambassador training scheme. £18, booking essential: 01962 846154

Sign up today and help us preserve Hampshire's heritage. Wednesday 11 November, 10am-3.30pm. Training in archive preservation/conservation, cataloguing, digitisation and oral history recording.

More about Longparish Crosses from Martin Coppen:



Longparish Crosses 2—The Monument at Deadman's Plack (SU 40097 44818)

Longparish is distinguished by having two nineteenth century stone crosses. If Henry Burnaby Greene's wayside cross of 1867 has its puzzling aspects, even more enigmatic is the tall memorial cross at Deadman's Plack, hidden away in the portion of Harewood Forest between The Middleway on the north and the A303 on the south.

Standing 18 feet high (5.51m), the Grade II listed monument is a plain stone cross on a two stage pedestal. The main inscription facing south-west records, in now indistinct Gothic script, that on this spot, known traditionally as Deadman's Plack, around AD 963 the Saxon King Edgar vengefully killed Earl Athelwold, owner of the forest, on account of the 'beauteous Elfrida', who later in contrition founded the nunnery of Wherwell. On the opposite side is inscribed: This monument was erected by / Lt. Col. William Iremonger. / A.D. MDCCCXXV. (1825—The date is in Roman script, not Gothic as the first two lines and the front face: was it added later?)

Col Iremonger inherited the Wherwell estate, of which Harewood Forest was part, on his father's death in 1805. Resigning his commission in 1811, after three years of apparently undistinguished service, he lived in Wherwell Priory until his own death in 1852. The dedication of Wherwell church, next to the Priory, is *St Peter & Holy Cross*.

While the story of Athelwold and Elfrida may be legend, what is historical fact is the power of the Saxon tale of lust and revenge on the Georgian literary imagination, with various tragic poems, plays and even an opera on the subject published between 1709 and 1815.

The monument at Deadman's Plack is proof enough of the hold of the dramatic tale on William Iremonger's mind in the 1820s. But there is further, more personal indication of what it meant to him. No less than three of his four children born 1821-5 were given Christian names after characters in the story: Pennant Athelwold, born 1821; Henrietta Elfrida Susanna, born 1822 (died 1824, aged 2½); Elfrida Susanna Harriet, born 1825—the same year as inscribed on the monument. This seems close to obsessive.

Deadman's Plack seems to be a local name and so of uncertain antiquity: *deadman's*, a place where a body has been found (or perhaps a name, *Dodman's*?) and *plack* or *plat*, a small plot of ground. Could it have stuck from Anglo-Saxon through Middle English for the almost 900 years from the death of Athelwold until the monument was erected? So W H Hudson, naturalist and prolific writer, argued in his 1920 book, *Dead Man's Plack and An Old Thorn*. The cross is a folly, originating in the mind of William Iremonger. But that is what makes it worth visiting.

Access to the monument is described in the *Exploring Longparish* leaflet downloadable from the village website (www.longparish.org.uk/about-longparish/local-walks.html). It can only be visited on foot, a walk of about 0.4 mile from the road (620m). Dwarfed by trees, this strange memorial blends into its forest surroundings just as the legend which it records is blurred through over 1000 years of history.

Martin Coppen

1943 Andover Section of the Special Constabulary

Clifford Williams has asked us to include this photo of the 1943 Andover Section of the Special Constabulary in the hope that more names can be added:



Names so far: back row: 3rd from right Ernest Charles Cole (St Mary Bourne)

middle row: 7th from left Rowland Owen Passingham

front row: 4th from left possibly Sgt Wherrel, 5th from left Sgt Hennon, 7th from left Sgt Noyes, 9th Supt Liddiard, 10th from left Special Inspector Frank Simpson, 13th from left Sgt Reg Burden, 16th from left Will Carr

Coming Soon:

We have had this note from **Phil Ray**, the chairman of **Andover Film Club**:

“I'm writing with regards the forthcoming announcement of a book we're soon to publish called *Picture Mad, Andover's Cinemas: Past and Present*. It's 160 pages long, colour and black and white photos feature, as do testimonies, histories and stories associated with the buildings and the area.”

The Andover Film Club website www.andoverfilmclub.org/index.php/picture-mad gives more details as well as many photos of Andover cinemas ancient and modern.

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

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 2015 edition will be available at the September meeting, and thereafter at Waterstones, Andover Museum and from Mill Pound Cottage as 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