
The Newsletter

September 1992

Vol.9 No.I

The introduction of a new heading for The Newsletter enables one to express the thanks of the Society to Denis Lore for all his work in improving its image. One hopes that visitors to the Museum will take note of the artwork Denis has completed in connection with the exhibition, 'H.M.S.Poppy.' Perhaps this will encourage other members to volunteer their skills.

Quite a number of our members belong to the R.S.P.B. and perhaps they noted Phil Drabble's comment on page 68 of the latest Birds magazine, which is reprinted without additional notes:-

"and scrutiny of some surprising planning consents and Public Inquiry findings makes one wonder how often planning gain, where developers finance benefits for the community, might also be planners' gain, to line the pockets of bumblecrats and parish pump politicians."

COMMITTEE

At the first committee meeting after the A.G.M. it was approved that Jean Eason be co-opted onto the committee for 1992/3.

PUBLICATIONS

SOUTH MIMMS A3 size with seven pen and ink sketches and historical information.
 1914 Map of South Mimms
 50p from 74, Blanche Lane for members in South Mimms.

OUT SOON

Potters Bar Historical Series No.7
 The Stage-coach through Potters Bar
 by A.C.Lynch

DARKES LANE THEN & NOW

AND

WYLLYOTTS

The first part of the lecture will investigate the early history of the original estates and their owners, which once adjoined Darkes Lane. Earlier names for Darkes Lane will be revealed and the story of how the road became called Darkes Lane. Lastly, its development in the 1930s as a shopping centre and a look at it in more recent times. This presents a fascinating story hitherto not revealed to the residents of Potters Bar.

After the interval the history of Wylllyotts Manor will be examined and new evidence produced to reveal that the present structure is more than a barn, and includes many interesting features to be seen in a timber-framed building.

WHEREAS OUR TALKS FILLED OAKMERE HOUSE IN THE PAST (seating 200), WYLLYOTTS CAN SEAT OVER 400, SO TELL YOUR FRIENDS and RELATIONS.

POTTERS BAR & DISTRICT
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

IN ASSOCIATION WITH
THE WYLLYOTTS CENTRE

PRESENT
 AN ILLUSTRATED TALK ON

DARKES LANE THEN & NOW

AND

WYLLYOTTS

BY MR BRIAN WARREN
 & MR TERRY GOULDING

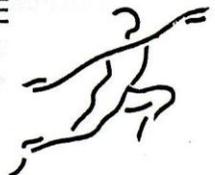
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH, 1992
 AT 8 P.M.

AT THE WYLLYOTTS CENTRE,
 POTTERS BAR

ADMISSION £2.50
£2.00 (Concession)



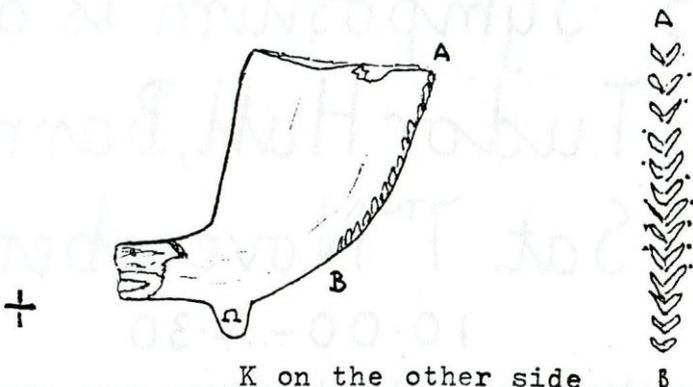
TICKETS IN ADVANCE, OR ON THE NIGHT,
 FROM: THE BOX OFFICE, WYLLYOTTS CENTRE,
 WYLLYOTTS PLACE, DARKES LANE
 BOX OFFICE 0707 45005



CLAY PIPES

Another pipe has been found in the back garden of 62, Ladbroke Drive, in 1991.

Date 1780-1840



REMINDER

SUBS DUE FROM 1st April

Mrs. E. Field,
Membership Secretary,
51, Highview Gardens,
Potters Bar,
Herts.

Adults £2.50 Under 18/over 60 £2.00
Family/Group membership £4.00

It would be of assistance if one informed the Membership Secretary, if one did not intend to renew their subs.

Since 1988 there has been only seven non-renewals from the 99 new members. In two cases they moved to Devon.

RECEIPTS

Those attending the monthly meetings are requested to collect their receipts from the table where they sign in. This would be of great assistance to the Membership Secretary.

SUBS

SUBS

ZEPPELINS AT 2.30

(BUT LOTS BESIDES)

The 13TH Symposium is at the
Tudor Hall, Barnet
Sat. 7TH November
10.00 - 4.30

As this event is local perhaps more members would like to attend, usually we have three representatives. The final cost has not yet been settled but if you are interested then let the Chairman know, and he will circulate the final information to you. ONLY 130 PLACES.

DRAFT PROGRAMME

- 10.00 Introduction & welcome
- 10.10 Barnet and the Tudor Hall
- 10.30 Barnet almshouses
- 11.10 Coffee
- 11.30 Anglo-Saxon place-names of Hertfordshire
- 12.00 Herts computerised historical resources
- 12.30 Lunch
- 2.00 Thomas Green of Hertford: an 18thC music teacher & tuner of musical instruments
- 2.30 Airship over Herts: a VC won above Cuffley
- 3.00 Changing religious attitudes in Ashwell in the 16th and 17th centuries

3.30 Tea

4.00 Entertainment by Barnet Society

4.30 Closing remarks.

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H.M.S. POPPY

The weekend 6th/7th June saw twenty navy veterans, who served on H.M.S. Poppy, return to Potters Bar. The reunion was to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the ship's adoption by the Potters Bar Urban District Council, the money having been raised in Warship Week, 1942.

On Sunday, the 7th, the veterans and their wives arrived at the Museum to view the special exhibition of H.M.S. Poppy. An eight mm. film of life on H.M.S. Poppy made into a video was viewed by those present. Tea/coffee were served at 10.30 before they left for St. Mary's.

At St. Mary's the service of Thanksgiving for the Commissioning of the corvette was led by the Vicar and the address was given by Canon C. Earle, who had been a chaplain on H.M.S. Norfolk during the war. The service was attended by the Mayor & Mayoress of Hertsmere, several Potters Bar councillors and their wives and other friends.

Many of the veterans were quite naturally very moved by all the events of the weekend, in some cases having never met one another for over forty years. Within a fortnight of the event Mr. & Mrs Gregory paid another visit to see the exhibition, having travelled from Stapleford, Notts. Letters of thanks showed that our efforts had been much appreciated.

HOLLY TREES

During preparation of the talk on Dancers Hill and Kitts End an impressive Holly Tree was measured in Dancers Hill Road.

5' $\frac{1}{2}$ " at 4ft girth, 28' 10" spread,
est. ht. 43FT.

If you know of any larger Holly trees please inform Brian Warren.

WINTER LECTURE PROGRAMME - Monthly meetings

FRIDAY OCTOBER 30th at the Sixty-plus Centre,
Wylllyotts 8 pm PROMPT

'Saxon London before King Alfred'
by Mr. Robert Cowie.

In recent years we have been fortunate to have a lecture from the Museum of London included in the year's programme. Mr. Cowie is this year's speaker from that museum. Last September he gave an excellent lecture at the York Archaeological Trust's weekend on, 'Lundenwic: Problems with Discovery and Interpretation'.

It is only within the last decade that it has realised that Saxon London was not within the City, as proposed by the late Sir Mortimer Wheeler. So if one wants to know where Saxon London has been discovered then this is the one meeting for you.

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 20th

'Alexandra Palace' by Mr. David Paul

This talk will outline the history of the palace and park from its inception in 1851, up to the present time. This includes the fire in 1980 and the subsequent rebuilding and the development of the park.

Since 1873 the palace and park have been the hope of its creators and managers and too often the graveyard of their dreams. Even now the story remains unfinished.

FRIDAY DECEMBER 11th

'Theobalds' by Mr. Peter Rooke

Theobalds was one of the most important houses in England from the 1580s until the Civil War, first as the home of William Cecil (Lord Burghley) and his son Robert, 1st Earl of Salisbury, and then as a Royal Palace of James I and Charles I from 1607.

The present eighteenth-century house was successively the home of the Prescott and Meux families and the scene of much gaiety in the time of the legendary Lady (Valerie) Meux, who died in 1910. Since then it has been used for various

activities and all will be revealed in the talk!

Peter Rooke is a Cheshunt historian who, in 1980, edited and published a book about Theobalds, which sold 3,000 copies.

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THE NELSON SOCIETY
PRESIDENT — The Rt. Hon. the Earl Nelson

SEARCH FOR NELSON'S MEN

The Nelson Society requests information on any local men who served with Nelson.

If you know anything about the lives of these men, where they lived, naval service, church memorials and most importantly where they now rest then please reply.

This is a National appeal the results of which are being used by the Society to help promote interest in Nelson and the men who served with him.

There were 17,000 sailors of all nationalities in the British Fleet alone at Trafalgar, where are their final berths now?

If you think you know any details at all please write to —

The Archivist,
Wylllyotts Museum & Local History Centre,
Wylllyotts Place,
Darkes Lane,
Potters Bar,
Herts.
EN6 2HN

or Phone 070745005 Wednesday 2.30-4.30

MUSEUM VISIT by Sunnybank Junior School

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In connection with their work on, 'England since 1930' Mrs Marlow, four parents and twenty-seven children visited the museum on Friday, 10th July. Following a talk about Potters Bar in that period the children looked at the exhibits.

Though they had to walk to the museum it is understood most of them thought it was better than a day in school! However, another thought is that only TWO of the children knew that Potters Bar had a museum, before their teacher suggested a visit.

Below is reproduced one of their letters of thanks received the following Wednesday:-

Sunny Bank Junior School
Field View Road
Potters Bar
Herts
EN6 2NA
July 15th 1992

Dear MR Warren

Thank you for opening the Museum especially for us it was very interesting it ties in with our work about England since 1930 I didn't know that there was a cinema in Potters Bar I went home and told my Nan about what I learnt and I found out that my Nan had worked in the cinema I also found out that my Nans mum died in the Second world war and her name was on the gravestone.

Yours Sincerely

The booklet has sold well and many appreciative comments have been received, but as there is unlikely to be a reprint certain amendments are noted below:-

p7 line 13 'on the death of her mother. in 1674,
now she succeeded to the Manor of North
reads Myrms.¹¹ Osborne House may have been
erected after 1665, following her
widowed mother's marriage to Robert
Vyner, London goldsmith and banker.

p50 Ref.II omit what is there and insert:-

The Pretended Marriage by Jean Davis, Church
Farm Publications, Aldbury, Herts.1976
Guildhall Studies in Local History Vol.II, No.I
October 1975 -Bridget Hyde and Lord Treasurer
Danby's Alliance with Lord Mayor Vyner by
David Allen.

I am grateful to Bill Killick for drawing my
attention to this information.

p33 PHOTOGRAPH

Delete No.27 ? Arthur Page
Insert No.17 ? Elsie May Hills
No.36 Victoria Bardett
No.38 Arthur Page
No.39 Fred Page

p41 Insert below photograph:-
(Now the site of The Highlands)

p44 PHOTOGRAPH

Insert after Bertha -,their daughter,
Bertha is behind the horse's head.

p45 near the bottom 'Lilian' should be 'Louisa'
LITTLE HEATH 1914 map at the end

?Oakfield, Church Rd. remove ? as it is Oakfield.
The house between Meadow House and Chidham,
Heath Road was called Mowbray Lodge.

T.Elwood should be Ellwood (Hawkshead Lane)
H.Attneane should be Attneave (Boundary House)
H.R.D arlington should be H R Darlington
(Park House, Osborne Rd.)

THE CENTENARY of CHRIST CHURCH, LITTLE HEATH, 1993.

If you have or know the whereabouts of any of the Parish Magazines 1900 - 1930, please contact:-

Mrs Emma Stewart, 25 Grangewood, Little Heath.
(Phone 56390)

Mrs. Stewart is writing a history of the church, as part of the celebration.

WELL DONE THE POST OFFICE

A letter received at the Museum was addressed:

Town Historian
Town Hall
Potters Bar
Hertfordshire
England

It came from Calgary, Canada.

SOME OF THE ENQUIRIES TO THE ARCHIVIST THIS YEAR

Pearce family of Potters Bar 1870-80s.
Tyttenhanger.
Potters Bar Hospital.
St.M.I. stones in the grounds of Morven.
Clare Hall history.
Tracing the artist of the Northaw church murals.
Ridge history.
Origin of Quakers Lane.
V2 bomb in Southagte Rd in 1939-45 war.
Information on George Tarry, who lived in South Mimms in the 1700s.
Maps of the area.
The old blue police boxes removed in the 1970s.
The Forbes' family of Mount Grace.
Old Manor Golf course.
A sword discovered in a back garden.
A timber-framed building at Aspenden.

P.S. Did you notice the Society's new logo ?
Thanks to Denis Lore and we hope that you like it.