

FULBOURN VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY

To save Fulbourn's past for the future

NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 6 – Winter & Spring 2001

HISTORY HUT – REVISED OPENING HOURS

The History Hut at the Archaeological Field Unit in Haggis Gap will no longer open on Wednesday afternoon. The new opening times will be Monday afternoon, 2.00 – 4.00 p.m. and the third Saturday in the month, 10.00 – midday. Do take the opportunity to call in to see the resources we have on offer and, if you have time to spare, why not lend a hand staffing the History Hut? Contact Pat White, the Society's Archivist, if you are willing to help; her telephone number is 881037.

FROM THE ACCESSIONS REGISTER

Listed below are some of the items which we have gratefully received for the Society's archives:

A rat trap
A Brief Account of the Public Houses of Fulbourn (1834)
Gas mask and helmet, WWII
Photograph of Railway Tavern, c. 1950
Archives of disbanded Women's Section, Fulbourn Royal British Legion
Adult's white cambric nightgown, c.1900

More of the very interesting items people are kindly giving to the Society will be listed in our next Issue.

WE'VE BEEN SHOPPING!

Fund-raising efforts in the last year have allowed the Society to make the following purchases:

1. A set of specialist photograph albums to enable the safe storage of our growing photographic archive. (We are always pleased to receive photographs for the archive.)
2. A CD Writer to ensure the safety of data stored on the Society's computer.
3. A vertical plan chest so that we can better store maps and other oversize papers.

Many thanks to everyone who has helped in any and every way to raise the funds to enable these essential purchases to be made. Fundraising will always be needed to ensure that we have monies available to fund research as well as future purchases of equipment.

WORKING PARTY

Help is needed to put photographs from the archives into the new albums. If you have a few spare minutes and would like to help please contact Tony Goodall or Hon Secretary.

OLD PHOTOGRAPHS

Members may have at home interesting photographs of village events, landmarks, buildings etc which they do not want to part with but which may be of interest to the Society. If this is the case with you, we can now

copy photographs into the computer; ask the Hon Secretary about this facility – her telephone number is at the end of this Newsletter.

CO-ORDINATING RESEARCH PROJECTS

The Society's Research Group is trying to co-ordinate historical research by members which relates to the village. A number of projects are known to be underway or are in the minds of members. By subjecting each proposal to a basic test to demonstrate that it meets the Society's criteria for research projects and is clearly targeted at a particular outcome then support may be made in terms of resources of time and money.

Members are therefore invited to contact the Hon Secretary for a proforma to complete should they have any projects underway or in their mind's eye. You will need to think out carefully the purpose and expected results of the project and any costs and other resources likely to be needed as well as the proposed timescale.

SO YOU'D LIKE TO DO SOME RESEARCH?

You think you'd like to undertake a research project but are unsure exactly what to research? Listed below are a few ideas to start you thinking ...

Prehistoric foundations and historic development of the Parish and village
Mapping land-use in the Parish from old maps and documents
Recording existing buildings and associated dating programme
Collection, collation and analysis of demographic records
Water map of the Parish including watercourses, drainage ditches and ponds
History of All Saints' Church
Weather records for the area
Health records for the Parish
Recording memories on tape (we have a tape recorder)
Photographic record of all buildings in Parish

If any of the above topics appeals, contact the Hon Secretary for a proforma and go for it! We will give researchers as much help as possible to get them started.

HM THE QUEEN'S GOLDEN JUBILEE

In June next year we celebrate our Queen's Golden Jubilee. Your Committee would like the Society to celebrate the anniversary with an exhibition and as there is very little time to prepare, would welcome volunteers to help with research. Here are some of the topics we have in mind:

1. Compilation of Fulbourn Chronicles 1955-2000
2. A full compilation of Electoral Rolls
3. Planning Permissions granted in the parish

4. Maps showing the village each decade
5. Aerial photographs of village for each decade
6. Highlights of parish & village meetings
7. Significant village events
8. Changing village shops
9. Demise of village pubs
10. Weather statistics (mainly rainfall & weather highlights)
11. Population from censuses in 1951/61/71/81 & 91
12. Changes in education
13. Village activities for significant Royal events, eg Silver Jubilee
14. Changes in transport, road & rail
15. Changes in farming
16. Changes in utilities & communications
17. Photographs, drawings & paintings of events, subjects & views
18. Changing village societies, clubs, organisations etc
19. People – famous, benevolent, hardworking, sporting etc.

If you can help in any way please contact Richard Townley or Linda Halton.

LOST – BELIEVED MISSING

A recent check of the records has disclosed various photographs and documents missing from the filing cabinets. We believe they may have been taken from the History Hut without the borrower entering the details in the appropriate register. The items in question went AWOL about the time of the Millennium Exhibition last June. If you know the whereabouts of these missing items, please return them to the History Hut as soon as possible.

TAPING OF MEMORIES

A team of members has begun to tape the memories of volunteer Seniors. If you know of anyone in the area who has interesting life memories, or would like to help with this very worthwhile aspect of the Society's aims, please contact Pat White or Hon. Secretary.

A STREET CLEANER'S LOT

By day, Alan Brigham cleans the streets in Cambridge but in the evening he gives very entertaining talks to interested groups. We were very pleased to have Alan speak to us about his experiences during the twenty years he has swept Cambridge's streets. He spoke in a most entertaining fashion and provoked gales of laughter with some of his tales. As he has several other talks about local subjects in his portfolio we may invite him back one day soon to speak to us again on a different topic.

MINCE PIES, MULLED WINE & A MAGIC LANTERN SHOW

Did you know that in 1862 Richard Townley's great grandfather gave a magic lantern show for the Sunday School children at The Manor? This gem was brought to our notice by a member who came to the Christmas meeting. How history repeats itself!

Many members entered into the spirit of the occasion and wore Victorian costume. The posse of housemaids in their uniforms lent an authentic air – even the mulled wine recipe was "in period".

Amanda Tuck, her husband and son showed members some of their collection of antique magic lantern slides,

those illustrating a Victorian Christmas. Mr & Mrs Tuck used a pair of original and beautifully engineered magic lanterns for the show and these attracted a lot of interest. Our thanks to Mr Jason Beart for playing the piano accompaniment which enhanced the period flavour.

We are indebted to Mr & Mrs Townley for allowing us to use the Manor for the meeting – it was the perfect backdrop for a "Victorian Christmas" and a delightful start to the festive season.

FULBOURN WINDMILL

Until the middle of the 20th century, the village miller played a most important role in the life of the village. The use of roller mills for milling flour early in the 20th century changed that and Fulbourn windmill last ground flour for baking in the 1930s. By the early 1950s the building was beginning to decay and so the late Mrs Marjorie Townley took up the challenge and was instrumental in the formation of the Windmill Society whose aim is to preserve and restore the mill. Work on restoring the mill really got off the ground in the late 1970s, when Paul and Sarah Mardon bought the site. Colin Webb and Sarah Mardon gave a most interesting and enlightening presentation to members on the mill's history from 1808 (when the existing mill was built) to 2000, when the mill was lit by laser light to welcome in the 21st century.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 17 MAY

The AGM will be held at the Six Bells on Thursday 17 May starting at 8.00 p.m. Subscriptions may be paid at this meeting. Members will receive notice of the meeting, together with nomination papers, in April.

SUMMER VISIT – 29 JULY 2001

Here's a date for your diary: Sunday 29 July is the date of the Society's summer visit and this year we shall be visiting the Village Museum at Ashdon, near Saffron Walden. Members will be circulated by letter nearer the time.

LECTURE PROGRAMME

Your Hon. Secretary has the pleasure of arranging the programme and she would welcome from members suggestions for future speakers. If you have a special interest or hear of a good speaker, please get details and pass them on to her. She would also welcome comments on the current programme – do drop her a line if you can make a constructive contribution.

NEW OFFICERS

With an ever-increasing membership the committee decided to spread the administrative load. Glynis Arber has been appointed Assistant Secretary and Pauline Hunt is the new Membership Secretary. Please refer all queries concerning membership to Pauline; her telephone number is 880288.

TRIPPING THE LIGHT FANTASTIC

Ivy Smith, Ann Waldock and the Fund-Raising Group have organised a dance to take place on Friday 9 March, 8.00 – 11.30 p.m. at the Townley Hall. The music will be mostly ballroom and is being provided by organist Nicki Robinson; we are assured there will be no disco lights or loud disco music! No bar

facilities will be available, and patrons are asked to bring their own drinks and glasses. Crisps etc will be available for purchase. Tickets cost £4.00 each and will be available at the February meeting.

An invitation has been sent to all members so if you are unable to come to the February meeting to buy your ticket and want to come to the dance, please complete and return to Linda the tear-off slip on the letter together with your remittance.

WEA COURSES AT BOTTISHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE

Alison Taylor is tutoring the undermentioned course which starts Thursday 26 April and runs for 5 meetings, 7.00 – 9.00 p.m.

THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF VILLAGES AROUND BOTTISHAM

There will be visits to various sites of interest.

Full fee is £16, concessions £10.

CONTACT Shirley Ellis 01223 811891 for further details.

For details of WEA history and other courses held in Cambridgeshire contact WEA Branch on 01223 813915.

LOCAL HISTORY STUDIES

The University of Cambridge Board of Continuing Education offers a wide-ranging programme of courses for the general public. A booklet listing the courses is kept in the History Hut and is available to members. All courses are open to everyone aged 18 and over.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY - ONE DAY CONFERENCE

10 March 2001 – CAMBRIDGESHIRE AT WAR

Cambridgeshire Family History Society is holding a one day conference (and their AGM) at Cottenham Village College on Saturday 10 March. The Conference theme is Cambridgeshire at War and the cost is £10.00 per head to include lunch and all refreshments. If any member is interested in attending please contact Wendy Doyle 65 Station Road Histon Cambridge CB4 9LQ as soon as possible.

The Conference programme is as follows:

- 09.30 Registration & coffee
- 10.15 Welcome. Introduction
- 10.45 Tom Doig speaking on the 19c Militia
- 11.45 Barbara Chambers on Family History and the Napoleonic Wars
- 12.45 Lunch & time to browse the bookstall
- 14.0 AGM
- 14.25 Geoff Sewell – Death Clouds: the story of Ben Sewell and World War I Gas
- 15.45 Tea and close

RAMSEY ABBEY - A STUDY OF ACHIEVEMENT

Two whole-day seminars will look at the achievements of this Fen-edge Benedictine house, once a bright centre of learning and religion. The first seminar on

Saturday 23 June at Anglia Polytechnic will study the written record. The second seminar will be to study the archaeological record and will be held on Saturday 7 July at Ailwyn Community School, Ramsey. For further details contact Linda Halton on 880465.

EXHIBITION: RAMSEY THE GOLDEN

This exhibition, organised by Ramsey Rural Museum, will be held in the museum between 22 July & 16 September, Thursday and Sunday afternoons. For further details of exhibition contact Mrs Yardley on 01487 814304.

CAMBRIDGE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY

The Antiquarian Society has a new Hon. Secretary – Dr Derek Booth; he has taken over from Sue Oosthuizen. FVHS is affiliated to the above Society and our members may attend meetings which are usually held at 18.00 p.m. at the Chemistry Laboratories on the corner of Lensfield Road and Panton Street. Listed below is their programme of meetings for the rest of the year:

- | | | |
|--------|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 12 Feb | 18.00 | Mr Rob Walker – <i>Medieval bells & bell frames</i> |
| 5 Mar | 17.45 | A.G.M. |
| | 18.00 | Dr Ralph Jackson – <i>Health and Healing in Roman Britain (A lecture in tribute to Dr Timothy Potter)</i> |
| Sat. | 10.00 | Day Conference at Lady Mitchell Hall, Cambridge |
| 10 Mar | | |
| 2 Apr | 18.00 | Dr Michael Woodhouse – <i>Rural unrest in 19th century Cambs and Hunts</i> |
| 7 May | 18.00 | Mrs Ann Holton-Krayenbuhl – <i>Saxon & Mediaeval Ely: a reappraisal of the documentary evidence in the light of recent archaeological excavations.</i> |
| 4 June | 18.00 | Dr Peter Warner – <i>Minsters and Parishes in the Waveney Valley</i> |

FULBOURN CHRONICLES

Sales of the Chronicles have exceeded expectation so if you have not yet purchased yours and would like a set, telephone Norman Osborne on 880303 for further details.

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE AT THE COUNTY RECORD OFFICE, CAMBRIDGE

Cambridgeshire Archives Service has available to purchase a comprehensive selection of guides, pamphlets, booklets and maps aimed at the local historian. A copy of the publications list is available in the History Hut or members might prefer to contact the County Record Office direct; their telephone number is 717281 fax 717201 and e-mail: CountyRecords.Cambridge@camcnty.gov.uk

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CAMBRIDGE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY

The latest volume of the Proceedings has been received into the History Hut and is available to members. It makes very interesting and informative reading.

FEDERATION OF CAMBRIDGESHIRE HISTORY SOCIETIES

We have been invited to join the above Federation. Membership means our Society appears on the Federation's website, which in turn widens access to our developing facilities – members with access to the internet can view the site at <http://www.cambridgeshirehistory.com/Societies/fvhs/com>.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK AROUND THE NATURE RESERVE *by Tim Malim*

Over the past year and a half an archaeological survey has been conducted over Fulbourn Manor Estate. The land has some very significant sites and monuments including the north end of Fleam Dyke where it meets with Shardelowes Well and the prehistoric and Roman road of Street Way; the Moated Site and other medieval earthworks near Ox Meadow and in the woodland; and a series of sites that are visible from air photographs in arable fields. Walking the ploughed fields looking for pottery and flints has revealed several other sites, and metal-detector finds made in the past by Richard Wombwell has provided a lot of useful information on land-use from prehistoric - medieval times.

In the summer of 2001 the Archaeological Field Unit will be undertaking a Training Excavation on the moated site and in some other areas. There will be a week or two when volunteers from the History Society and from the village in general would be encouraged to come along and help out, and there will be opportunities for site tours during August. A guided walk around Fleam Dyke and the village will be taking place on Wednesday 5th September at 7.00pm. For more details on any of these or other archaeological events please contact the Archaeological Field Unit at Fulbourn Community Centre on 576201.

ACCOMMODATION SOUGHT FOR AMATEUR ARCHAEOLOGISTS

Caroline Malim at the Archaeological Field Unit would like to hear from any member willing to provide bed & breakfast for participants coming from afar to take part in the training excavation. If you can offer accommodation Caroline would like to hear from you - telephone her on 576201.

CORONATION OF KING GEORGE V & QUEEN MARY – 22 JUNE 1911 - FULBOURN CELEBRATIONS *by Pat White*

In May 1911 a committee was formed from amongst the Fulbourn worthies to arrange the nature of the village's celebrations for the forthcoming coronation. A dinner for all those over 16, a tea for the children under 16 and a dinner for the helpers were proposed, the cost being covered by a rate of 1d in the pound, and held in the School Room and the Assembly Room. Provision was made for the aged and sick of the Parish by the distribution of food. The latter was to be organised by Miss Chaplin and Mrs Nicholls.

255 men and 154 women applied for tickets to the dinner, and 204 children were to partake of the tea at 4.00 p.m. Mugs were presented to the children at a cost of 1s 10d per dozen. Participants at the dinner were expected to bring with them a knife, fork, spoon, plate and glass.

The breakdown of the cost of the celebrations was as follows:

500lbs of beef was purchased from three village butchers at a cost of £12.14s.3d. The cost of beer and minerals to be ordered equally from the 8 village publicans was £4.8s.8d. The 230lbs of plum puddings came from Messrs Matthews, 15 stones of bread from Mr Ellis the village baker, who also cooked the joints of meat. 600 plates were hired from Messrs Barratt at a cost of £13.3s. and the Carrier cost 1s. Four ladies dealt with the washing-up, i.e. Mrs Furbank, Patten, Bridge & Rolph; they were all paid different rates, from 5s to 2s. 30 dozen mugs and 30 doz medals cost £2.15s and £1.1s.1d respectively and were supplied by Laurie & McConnell of Cambridge. Does anyone have any of these still? £11.6s was paid to the waggon drivers in the procession and the whole celebration cost £44. 4s.10d.

Editor's note:

If you'd like to contribute to the magazine or share with members your memories of village life, please contact Linda on 880465.