



NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2019

Membership Secretary: Charlotte Bailey

We welcome contributions for the Spring Newsletter; please send them to the Editor, David Rymill (details below) by Friday 29th November. Please contact us if you would like to reproduce any part of the Newsletter.

Cover: detail from a map of Mottisfont manor by Christopher Mason, 1724 (HRO 13M63/420)

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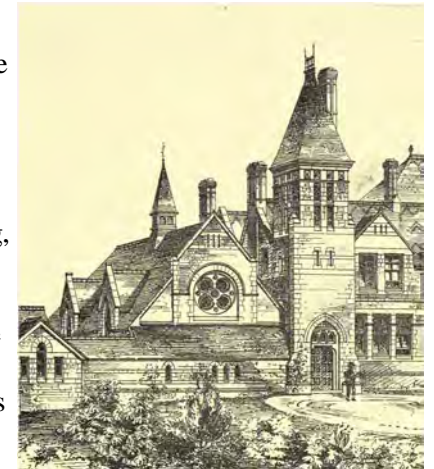
We hope that members like the new colourful and eye-catching logo for HAT (see page 1) which was introduced in June; we are grateful to Barry Shurlock for the design.

AGM 2019

Sue Chopping and the Events Team

The HAT Annual General Meeting will take place at Churcher's College, Ramshill, Petersfield GU31 4AS on Saturday 19th October at 2.15pm in the Lecture Theatre and Gallery, by kind permission of the Headmaster.

The afternoon will start with the business meeting. After tea we will be treated to a talk on the history and origins of the School by the Archivist Mrs Gillian Clarke, previously Head of English at the school. This promises to be topical and fascinating, and will include Richard Churcher's connections to the British East India Company. As usual, attendance at the meeting will be free but a charge of £3.00pp will be made for tea. There is plenty of free parking within the school grounds, and the railway station is a short walk away. Please go to the centre of the magazine to see the different ways to book your place. We look forward to seeing you there.



Detail from an engraving of an architectural drawing of Churcher's College by G R Crickmay from The Builder, 1 Oct 1881 (HRO TOP252/2/2)

Amport House

John Isherwood

A last chance visit! The Armed Forces Chaplaincy Centre is moving to Shrivenham and its present home, Amport House, near Andover, is to be sold. David Blake, the Centre's museum curator since 2003, will host a

visit for Trust members on Tuesday 24th September at 2pm. He will give us an introductory talk about the history of the 1857 house, formerly home to the Marquess of Winchester, and its 1920s Jekyll garden. We will see something of the interior of the house, and its chapel wing built in 1999, following the army chaplaincy's move from Bagshot Park to Amport in 1996, when it became the chaplaincy centre for all three armed services. Mr Blake will explain the 5th-century origins and subsequent development of service chaplaincy. Please see the separate booking form enclosed in this mailing.

## Christmas party

Charlotte Bailey

We will join with Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust again for our annual Christmas party on Thursday 12th December. The evening will start with a talk, 'Faith and Fun: Free Church Sponsored Social Activities in late Victorian and Edwardian Basingstoke', by Roger Ottewill, Chair of the Local History Section of the Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society. The talk will be followed by festive refreshments. Please see the centre of the magazine for the booking form.

## A day to keep free!

The next Community Archive Forum will be held at Hampshire Record Office on Saturday 21st March 2020. The programme for this very successful annual event will include presentations on various themes and from various parts of the county. There will be a panel discussion – 'Q & A workshop' – on dealing with queries from family historians and other researchers, which often come from overseas. These are a great opportunity to trade information – and even generate income! The meeting will have plenty of time to meet and network with fellow local historians. This year for the first time it is being jointly organised by HAT and the Local History Section of the Hampshire Field Club. For more information, see the separate flyer enclosed in this mailing, or contact Barry Shurlock at [barryshurlock@gmail.com](mailto:barryshurlock@gmail.com), 01962 861913 or Roger Ottewill at [rogerottewill@btinternet.com](mailto:rogerottewill@btinternet.com), 023 8051 2093.

## From our Chairman

David Livermore

Members who attended the last AGM and the more recent launch of the Trust's new website will be aware that the Trustees are committed to a more proactive role in encouraging interest in archives among the general public, and specifically supporting organisations and projects through our grants programme.



*David Spurling, Website Project Co-ordinator, at the website launch*

Hampshire has been blessed with a remarkable collection of archival material. Its preservation and conservation have been largely due to the enlightened decisions of local councils and the professionalism of the staff of the Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton archive services. It is ironic that, at a time of growing public interest in family and community history at all levels, our outstanding local government facilities should be faced with savage financial cuts. We can play an important role in softening the impact of cuts and also responding to growing public interest.

I should like to take this opportunity to thank Peter Andreae, who has retired as a Trustee after nearly 30 years' service. We are very grateful for his commitment and his advice, and for his sterling efforts to recruit new members.

A major development for HAT is the new website, not only to provide a more professional service to our members but to enable us to increase the number of members with an enhanced range of services. We are proud of its quality and capability but especially its user-friendliness. Our vision is that it should become the very focus of all local archival matters in

Hampshire and enhance the already good links between ourselves, societies and record offices throughout the county and beyond.

The fundamental structure is now in place and, as far as possible, ‘future – proofed’ to be able to handle whatever additional needs arise. Essentially the website is a ‘living thing’ and will continue to grow as more material becomes available in digital form and more users and societies join the network. We expect the HAT website to become the ‘place-to-go’ for all information about our local archival heritage.

Quite apart from our role in facilitating better communications, our aim is also to provide practical support through making grants to enable worthy projects in the community to be completed successfully. Last December we reviewed our first tranche of applications. We were delighted with both their quality and variety, and after considerable discussion we were able to settle upon five exceptional projects.

Two successful applicants gave presentations at our website launch. Michael Blakstad of East Meon History Group described their project to publish the results of their research in their *Farming the Valley* book as well as index and digitise over 1,000 documents and images of East Meon. Chris Saunders of Milford-on-Sea Historical Records Society outlined their project to mount an exhibition marking the 200th anniversary of the death of Admiral Sir William Cornwallis, buried in the town’s church. The quality of the presentations and the projects themselves made them ideal examples of what HAT seeks to promote.

The total of these grants amounted to £27,000, funded from donations and our reserves. Our plan for 2019/20 is to allocate £40,000 for the whole year, split between two grant-making reviews in July and January. For the future we will need to more than double the scale of our grant-making if we are to meet our strategic objectives. At the moment our membership fee of £10 does not even cover the cost of the newsletters. We aim to increase significantly the numbers of our members and at the same time enhance the services provided to justify a membership fee commensurate with other societies in the county. We look to our members to help us achieve this goal in a realistic and equitable way.

## HAT’s new website

David Spurling, Website Project Coordinator

HAT’s new website <https://hampshirearchivetrust.co.uk> was launched on 31st May, at HRO, witnessed by one of the largest gatherings of local historians in recent years. Opening the event, HM Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire, Nigel Atkinson, said: ‘I suggest to you that archives represent our heritage, our families, our buildings, our villages, towns and cities – indeed our very roots, the fabric of our lives. In today’s world, families have become increasingly mobile and there is an ever-increasing interest in knowing more about, and identifying with, their roots. This is well illustrated by the immense public interest in TV programmes such as *Time Team* and *Who Do You Think You Are?*’

The meeting showed the Trust’s resolve to support the county’s heritage in a variety of ways, according to Chairman David Livermore: ‘Our new website is a treasure trove of stories from the archives that cover Hampshire’s rich heritage. It provides a new window on all these resources and will, we hope, encourage more groups to pitch for grants. As a charity, we also need more members and volunteers, as well as donations and legacies. What many people don’t realise is that archives are fun and exciting and full of surprises. And they’re generally free!’

Most of the website is open to all; however, HAT members can use members-only areas to book events and read digital versions of the *Newsletter*. These are at present limited to recent issues, but digitisation of past editions is planned, and you can carry out searches for content of those on the website. **Do register online to enjoy the new site.**

The website was a nine-month project developed by a small team of Board members. As I explained, ‘The website will appeal to anyone with Hampshire connections interested in their family history or local heritage. It will be a one-stop-shop for information on the over 100 sources of archives in Hampshire.’ The sources range from the three record offices to local history groups with invaluable information on the people and places of Hampshire. The project took over 500 hours, and the site was programmed by Dadun Designs of Wilton.

## Grants programme

Sue Woolgar

### Update on progress to awards made in January 2019

At the January 2019 Board meeting, five grants were awarded (as reported in the Spring *Newsletter*, on page 15). Three awards have been paid in full and progress reports have been submitted; all three were completed on budget and on time.

- **Hampshire Gardens Trust's** publication on Humphry Repton and Herriard Park is due for publication at the beginning of September, so should be available around the time you read this.
- **East Meon History Group's** award was for two projects: the first, the publication *Farming the Valley*, is well under way, and is due for release in October or November. The consultancy work to devise the best strategy for managing the Group's digital sources is scheduled and will report this summer.
- **Milford on Sea Historical Record Society's** project 'Cornwallis remembered' is now complete. The major exhibition at the St Barbe Museum and Art Gallery in Lymington ran from 4th June to 31st August.

It is great to see these projects coming to fruition.

- The other two projects – the Old Gaol, Gods House Tower, Southampton (digitisation and publication) and New Milton Town Council's new heritage centre (towards internal displays) – are both longer term projects; further information about them will be included in the Spring *Newsletter*.

### New grants awarded!

HAT continues to make a real difference to local organisations' projects. The Board met on 30th July and considered the latest applications for grants. As always a rigorous examination was made with an assessment of how far they met our aims and objectives.

Three small grants were approved:

£260 was awarded to Hampshire Record Office for the purchase at auction of two medieval deeds to land in Lockerley (see page 26).

£500 was awarded to Stanmore primary school for the purchase of display boards for use in their 90th anniversary year (see opposite).

£372 was awarded to Hampshire Record Office for the purchase at auction of 120 documents relating to Nowes Charity in Romsey, 17th-18th centuries.

A number of new main grants applications has been received, and unfortunately while all were of merit and deserving of support some hard decisions had to be made because HAT could not afford to support them all. That means some could not be funded or were awarded less than applied for; nevertheless the Trust awarded funds to six projects totalling £19,182. This will make a real difference to the viability of the projects. There will be another award round in January 2020.

**Purchase of Percy Vickery (postcard) collection** – Mr Vickery was an active local historian and keen collector who died in January 2018; his collection was subsequently put up for auction and part of it is now for sale again (applicant: Fleet and Crookham Local History Group) – the Trust awarded £1,500. It may be timely to remind collectors of the value of making suitable provision for their collections after their death; 'archive donor cards', which you can place with your collection, asking your family or executors to pass them to an appropriate archive, are available on request from Hampshire Record Office.

**100 years of Hampshire women:** a project to catalogue some 80-plus boxes of hitherto unlisted Women's Institute records at Hampshire Record Office, covering Women's Institutes across most of Hampshire (applicant: Hampshire Record Office) – the Trust awarded £4,200.

**Digitising a photographic archive:** this collection is unique: a photographic record of the excavations of **Hyde Abbey** and the construction of Hyde Abbey Garden between 1995 and 1999. The digitisation will allow public access in a way impossible to date (applicant: Hyde900) – the Trust awarded £1,182.

**Conservation, preservation and redisplay of a 1571 document** –this document has been on display for many years and needs conservation together with better display conditions to protect it for the future (applicant: King John’s House and Tudor Cottage Trust) – the Trust awarded £2,800.

**Herriard & Southrope ‘short’**, this new work in the prestigious series of new ‘short’ Victoria County History parish books requires additional professional skill and knowledge to research and write, and features the exceptional collection of material at Hampshire Record Office (applicant: Victoria County History) – the Trust awarded £8,000.

**Working in Shadows** features the story of women war workers in Second World War shadow factories, in this case those at Elliot’s of Newbury who produced Spitfire components. Various film showings throughout Hampshire from September to December will take place and the project will also endeavour to engage with people seen in the films (applicant: Wessex Film and Sound Archive, Hampshire Record Office) – the Trust awarded £1,500 (see pages 33-34).

The Board hopes you will agree these projects will bring considerable public benefit both now and for the future.

*Charlotte Bailey writes:* HAT gave a small emergency grant to Stanmore Primary School in Winchester (*right*) so they could celebrate the 90 years since their foundation by showing all their research on new display boards. Pupils past and present had contributed and the hundreds of people who came on July 19th found plenty to learn and remember. Children came round and recorded memories and people were encouraged to write down special memories for the school archives. A wonderful afternoon of living history.



## **Visit report: Chilcomb House, Winchester**

Sue Chopping

The head office and storage facilities for Hampshire Cultural Trust, which cares for many collections of historical artefacts in Hampshire, is at Chilcomb House on the outskirts of Winchester. Originally a farm, it is now full of physical reminders of Hampshire’s rich and colourful past.

On 1st May ten of us started with tea and coffee in the boardroom where our guide, Ross Turle, explained the Cultural Trust’s aims, its work with museums and exhibitions across the county, and the preservation and conservation of the many articles donated to the Trust, covering the whole spectrum of life.

Ross took us to a storage shed full of the results of archaeological excavations across the county, including Stone Age flint tools and Roman pottery, all meticulously boxed and labelled. We went on to the collection of animal and bird taxidermy, most of which we found quite repellent, but it was very popular in Victorian times and is now much used by students, to draw and to study, which is not possible in the wild. There are also many collections of birds’ eggs, butterflies and all kinds of insects, housed in beautiful cases – now an unacceptable practice but admired in Victorian times, and invaluable for study. Then to apparel, ranging from exquisite silk ball gowns to a shepherd’s smock, which is just as important, and all the accessories; who knew there were so many variations in parasol and umbrella handles or walking canes?

By now we were overloaded with the scale and range of the collections, so Ross took us into the first of the conservation rooms where a conservator, aided by two students, was cleaning tiles and pots, and into the next room where the conservator was about to start making repairs on a rare Second World War flying suit. She explained how conservation has to draw a fine line between preserving an object so as to store and display it, and altering it by, perhaps, cleaning so that its age and provenance is compromised. For me, the highlight of this area was a perfect Silver Cross twin pram from the 1950s, bringing back memories of my childhood and how desperately I wanted one!



Then to social history, and there, perhaps more than in any of the other areas, there were cries of ‘I remember that’ or ‘We had one of those’ as we looked at the televisions, radios, vacuum cleaners, toasters etc. from our youth and beyond.

The afternoon was completed by a visit to the barn where the tractors, delivery lorries, milk floats, fire engines and cars are stored. Here, volunteers keep motors running and bodywork from deteriorating so that they can be used at historical weekend rallies or most particularly at Milestones Museum in Basingstoke, where large-scale displays of life in different eras of the rich history of Hampshire’s past are on view.

The afternoon ended with refreshments in the boardroom again and, although we were small in number, we felt this had been advantageous because of the narrow corridors and small spaces available to view this vast and fascinating collection.

## **Visit report: East Meon**

John Isherwood

For those who do not yet know it, East Meon is aptly described in the 2010 revised Pevsner as ‘A rewarding village, beautifully sited on the upper reaches of the River Meon in a bowl of the South Downs.’

Thanks to Janet Hurrell’s efficient forward planning, 28 members and guests assembled there on 30th May, a rare day of sunshine in an otherwise very wet month, at The Court House, the historic home of George and Clare Bartlett, approached past a flourishing vineyard planted by our hosts. We were generously welcomed on arrival with coffee in its medieval hall. Mr Bartlett then treated us to a fascinating talk about the hall and its adjoining chamber block and garderobe. The latter pair are now attractively converted into a comfortable library room and study. In 1927 the property was bought by P Morley Horder, an architect who united the medieval block with a later half-timbered cottage and its outbuildings, all of which became his home. He also added the beautifully-planned garden.

East Meon manor was held from before 1066 by the bishops of Winchester for the monks of the Cathedral. Its first Norman bishop, Wakelin built himself a palace there, pulled down and replaced in 1395-7 by William of Wykeham as his favoured country retreat.

The hall is remarkable for appearing today much as it did when first built and, thanks to the unequalled Winchester Pipe Rolls now kept at HRO, Mr Bartlett has been able to install a plaque inside with the names of Wykeham’s master builder William Wynford and his team of craftsmen who constructed and embellished it. For centuries East Meon’s manor courts, baron and leet, were held there, and the space continues to serve the community for many events, with its fine long Georgian tables, all but the tops of which were salvaged from the Middle Temple’s hall in London.



*HAT members in part of the 1390s phase of The Court House*

After lunch at a choice of two atmospheric pubs, we reassembled at the village church, All Saints’, the major part of which was completed c.1150. Lauded again by Pevsner as ‘one of the most thrilling in Hampshire’, its setting, size and quality prove its importance. It is indeed rare in Hampshire to find a village church with a Grade I listing. Here we were treated to a talk by local historian Michael Blakstad. Highlights of the church are its striking tower, fine Norman arches and outstanding Tournai black marble font. Village pride claims the latter to be superior even to that in Winchester Cathedral. It shows the story of Adam and Eve and others with a flat earth resting on pillars with mythical beasts, fish, birds and reptiles: stiff competition for the Cathedral’s St. Nicholas.

Our visit ended with a leisurely guided walk, led by Michael Blakstad, to admire the many listed cottages and houses in the village. Of particular interest is The Tudor House, dendro-dated by Edward Roberts as originating from 1333: an early survival of a timber framed hall house with daub and wattle. By 1892, with additions, it had become a grocer's and draper's shop. We also admired Glenthorne House, 1697, with its then newly fashionable symmetrical frontage to the High Street with fine red and blue brickwork. There is much else to admire which is described and illustrated in *Guided Walks around the historic buildings of East Meon* published by East Meon History Group with a Heritage Lottery Fund grant. Now there lies a challenge for others to do the same in their villages!

*See inside front cover for another photograph.*

## **Visit report: Southwick**

Barry Shurlock

The words have entered the oft-repeated history of the Second World War: 'OK, let's go!' But standing in the very room in Southwick House where they were said by General Dwight D Eisenhower on 5th June 1944 was a thrilling experience. The 24 members of HAT who were lucky enough to go on the visit had just been given a masterly talk on D-Day by Richard Callaghan, Curator of the nearby Royal Military Police Museum. To set the scene, he reminded the group that they were visiting on 18th June, an anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo.

Most people in the room had a passing knowledge of the planning and execution of D-Day and its enormous significance in defeating the Nazis, but Richard exposed some myths and also provided some new information that had only just emerged. Southwick House was, of course, extremely important in Operation Overlord, but the invasion was not planned, nor was it controlled from Southwick. It was, in fact, the 'Battle Headquarters' of Admiral Sir Bertram Ramsay, the Commander-in-Chief of Operation Neptune – the naval component of Overlord. The huge operations map, which was used in real time to follow the progress of the

operation, still covers one wall. Recently it has been discovered that it was not, as once believed, made by the toy maker Chad Valley, but by the International Model Aircraft Company, a subsidiary of Lines Brothers, better known for the trademarks Dinky, Meccano and Triang (*see illustration inside front cover*).

A key factor in the success of D-Day was the weather forecasting of Group Captain James Stagg, who correctly forecast a lull in the weather that enabled the invasion to proceed. Members looked in awe at his surface pressure charts. Ingenious deceptions of all kinds were essential for security, and even the carpenter who had fixed the Ops Map to the wall at Southwick had to be kept under house arrest for several months as he knew where the landings were to take place!

Southwick House is not only unusual for its military associations; it is virtually the only property in the village of Southwick not owned by the Thistlethwayte family. Guide Andrew Negus, who took the group on a tour, explained that, with the exception of the vicarage, every house owned by the family has a maroon door! It is an ownership that has endured from the dissolution of Southwick Priory in 1538, with descent through the female line of the Whyte, Norton, and Thistlethwayte families. He showed us the surviving north wall of the priory refectory; to its south a grand mansion was built by John Whyte; after a fire in 1750 a new house was built on the site of the current Southwick House – it too burnt down in 1838 and the present house replaced it. Also extant are the remains of the fish ponds of the priory and a large 18th-century ornamental lake, draining into the river Wallington and Fareham Creek.

The church is a peculiar with the owners of Southwick House holding the advowson. It is clearly an estate church, with sumptuous squire's pews, John Whyte's huge tomb and a wall of family memorials of men, most of whom served the Empire, and their wives.

One of the owners, 'Idle' Dick Norton (1615-1691) was an associate of Oliver Cromwell and an influential figure both nationally and in the county. Outside the east end of the church is the tombstone of William Lewis, allegedly a local poacher who was banned from the village, but in

death came back. On the stone is a verse with the words: 'Here's Lewis the brave/That ne'er was a Slave...'

## **Visit report: Alton Abbey**

Sue Chopping

I expected that this visit by 17 members to Alton Abbey in the village of Beech, just south of Alton, on 24th July, would be a little different from our usual venues and it certainly was! We were greeted by Prior Andrew on a lovely summer's afternoon and taken by him into the Abbey Church dedicated to Mary, the Mother of our Lord and to St John. We sat in the beautiful church built of local flint and buff bricks whilst Prior Andrew, a master storyteller, talked us through the history of the Community, its personalities and the work they did with merchant seamen mainly in Rangoon (as it then was) and later in Calcutta (Kolkata), Shoreditch and Barry in Wales.

The Community's founder was the Revd Charles Plomer Hopkins who after his ordination became the River Port Chaplain in Rangoon. Realising that he needed others to join with him in his work, he served a novitiate with the Society of St Paul in Holy Trinity, Shoreditch in 1888-9 and returned as Port Chaplain to Calcutta in 1889. When the Society closed in Shoreditch in the 1890s after Father Hopkins had taken his vows in 1893, becoming Father Michael, the community became the Order of St Paul and followed the rule of Saint Benedict. He realised that to continue and expand his work with merchant seaman, he would need a British base to recruit, train and provide rest for those working with him, and so a house was opened in Barry Dock in South Wales.

Here it was realised that the emphasis of the work of the Community was quite different to that needed on the Indian sub-continent: there it was moral and recreational guidance; here, it was a need for accommodation and financial aid for destitute, distressed and especially elderly seamen. So the land at Kingswood Copse at Beech was purchased in 1895 and seamen travelling between London, Portsmouth and Southampton were given food and shelter, in tents and wattle huts, in exchange for a few

days or weeks helping to build a corrugated iron monastery and, between 1901 and 1907, the beautiful Church we were sitting in.

Prior Andrew vividly brought these times to life for us, with his descriptions of the personalities of the men involved and the faith that drove them to create a refuge for the merchant seamen – without whom this island could not exist, but for whom no provision was made when they were sick or simply too old to go to sea.

Within the monastery a charitable home called a Pensionary was built by 1928 in memory of Father Michael, who died in 1922. The corrugated iron buildings were removed in 1956 and replaced with permanent accommodation; in 1984 more buildings housing a shop, meeting room and library were added, forming part of a cloister adjoining the church.

However, due to problems updating the property to comply with social service requirements, new homes were found for the remaining sailor residents in 1989. The monks still honour the historic connection by offering some educational bursaries to students from the Indian sub-continent at a merchant navy training establishment in memory of Father Hopkins. Since the closure of the retirement home, the number of monks has fallen from 13 to five – as the result of the ageing process (and suitability of candidates for monastic life) and not as a consequence of the closure of the home.

Prior Andrew then took us around the grounds, including the cemetery, a peaceful glade where over 200 seamen and monks rest, each commemorated with a simple stone slab. The Abbey is now run as a retreat, where visitors can rest, relax, wander in the lovely gardens and, if they wish, reconnect with their God of whichever persuasion. As there are now only five monks remaining in the Order, the Abbey relies on volunteers and the Friends of Alton Abbey organisation with a little paid help to keep going. The Abbey also produces incense; the making of this, described by Prior Andrew after he had served us a welcome cup of tea and biscuits, provides a steady income, along with income from visitors, which for me illustrated perfectly how institutions of the past can adapt to and be relevant in the present.



## Winchester, Women and Education

Alys Blakeway, Trustee of the Sybil Campbell Collection

Hampshire Archives and Local Studies has kindly agreed to host the annual Sybil Campbell Symposium on 18th September, 2.30-4.30pm. So, who was Sybil Campbell and what has she to do with Winchester?

Sybil Campbell (1889–1977) was a barrister and the first woman stipendiary magistrate, and this year's commemoration of her in the form of a symposium, funded by the trustees of the Sybil Campbell Library, seems particularly appropriate, as 2019 is the 100th anniversary of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act, which enabled women to become lawyers. Sybil Campbell was a member of the British Federation of University Women, now the British Federation of Women Graduates. The Collection belongs to the Federation and originally formed the library of their international hall of residence, Crosby Hall in Chelsea. As a supporter of the Hall, she donated £2,000 to its library in 1975, as well as donating books herself and encouraging other donors. In 1988 Crosby Hall was sold; the library, after various vicissitudes, is now on long-term loan to the University of Winchester from the British Federation of Women Graduates Sybil Campbell Collection Trust, and that is how Sybil Campbell came to be associated with Winchester. Every year the Trust, with the University's Centre for the History of Women's Education, organises a symposium in her memory.

This year the topic is Winchester, Women and Education and we will be looking at women both as influencers and influenced. Among the women and schools discussed we intend to include Sybil Campbell herself, Marianne Dyson (Charlotte Yonge's mentor), women at King Alfred's College (now the University) and two schools, the Misses Whyte's school and St Swithun's School (the Winchester High School for Girls). The symposium will shine new light on these women, many whom have been undeservedly neglected. All are welcome to the symposium. There is no charge but please indicate your intention to attend to [CHWE@winchester.ac.uk](mailto:CHWE@winchester.ac.uk). Full details will be posted on the University of Winchester's website at <https://www.winchester.ac.uk/news-and-events/events/event-items/winchester-women-and-education.php>.

## Fishing for eels in the archives

Barry Shurlock – [barryshurlock@gmail.com](mailto:barryshurlock@gmail.com)

Archives can often yield the most elusive information about subjects that are generally little documented. So it was that I was looking for some material to bolster an article on eel fishing for a local newspaper (it appeared on 3rd June in the *Southern Daily Echo* and on 7th June in the *Hampshire Chronicle*). Searching Hampshire Record Office's online catalogue I was able to find 53 entries, including 13 specialist terms, each prefixed with 'eel', the meaning of which is not always entirely clear. Here is an extended precis of material garnered from HRO sources, mainly based only on the catalogue entries. References are not given, as the sources will be apparent from visiting [www.hants.gov.uk/archives](http://www.hants.gov.uk/archives) and searching the online catalogue for 'eels'.

A number of radio and television programmes in Wessex Film and Sound Archive may also be fruitful. Thus river keeper Guy Robinson in 1997 spoke of 'eel fishing' at Stockbridge, and Don Goodwin in 1995 of 'eel bobbing' on the river Frome, while in 1997 Hampshire thatcher George Wright spoke of his practice of catching eels. There are also clips from Abbotsbury in Dorset, and Caversham on the Thames.

Fishing for eels was once an important source of food and revenue. When the railways came to Hampshire they provided an easy means of getting eels, kept alive in tanks, up to the London market at Billingsgate. The most obvious relic of the practice is on a tributary of the Itchen, the river Arle at Alresford, where an eel house dating from the 1820s has been restored ([http://www.towntrust.org.uk/eel\\_house.htm](http://www.towntrust.org.uk/eel_house.htm)) and is open to the public for a few days each year. It was part of the Arlebury Park estate of the Harris family.

Downstream, eels, as well as salmon, were also an important resource for the bishops of Winchester and were fished for on the Itchen. In 2009 the remains of eel traps could be seen at Brambridge lock on the canal, and there are also records of an eel house on the Itchen at Lower Chilland, according to Robin Greenwood's research notes: until at least c1951, eels were being caught and sent up to London, via Itchen Abbas station.



*The eel house, Alresford, c1860 (courtesy of New Alresford Town Trust)*

The earliest record in the archives catalogue is of an ‘eel spear’ in 1623 in the inventory of husbandman John Colson of Hamble. Eels were on the menu in 1789, when Lord Wallingford wrote from Richmond-on-Thames to his mother, 8th Countess of Banbury (a much-disputed title, eventually banished in 1813) in Winchester, telling her that he ‘had rowed up the river and dined at a public house on eel pie and beer for 1s 6d’.

The value of the right to fish for eels (and no doubt salmon) is clear from various leases. Thus at Burgate, on the River Avon, in 1718 the mill was leased, excluding the right to lay ‘eel pots or nets at the flood hatches’, and in 1865 a separate agreement for an ‘eel stage’ was concluded; there is a photograph in the archives of the spot taken in c1895.

As late as 1944-5, at Ibsley, also on the Avon, and part of the Somerley Estate of the Earls of Normanton, there was much correspondence about the ‘loss of an eel stage’, which had obviously long been an asset; accounts in 1867 record costs of ‘labour [on] an eel stage [and for] night-watching [against poachers]’.

Eels were also an important resource in Romsey, where in 1902 a plan shows Eel Weir Cottage adjoining Burnt Mill, Mill Lane, on the River Test. Upstream at Horsebridge Mill some unusual terms appear in agreements – an ‘eel wire’ in 1840 and ‘irrigation hatches and an eel grate’ in 1875. Elsewhere on the river, Leckford was a prime place for eel-fishing. A painting of the subject was made by James Stark (1794-1859) and a photograph of the ‘fisherman’s hut and bunny bridge with eel traps’ appeared in the 1965 village album of Longstock and Leckford WI. There was an ‘eel weir’ near Testcombe Bridge, Wherwell, and an 1817 lease of Longstock Manor Farm mentions an ‘eel fishery’.

In the process of researching eel fishing, an astonishing list of cures for deafness was encountered. Compiled in the 1720s for Thomas Jervoise of Herriard Park, near Basingstoke, the list includes ‘oil from a roasted silver eel’, but there are many other recipes, so arcane that it looks as if the various participants were playing a parlour game rather than giving medical advice. They include: ‘penny royal boiled in spring water’, ‘having a servant rub the head every morning with a towel for an hour’, ‘black hellebore, white hellebore, cumin seeds, bay berries, wormwood, rue and camomile, boiled in water and white wine vinegar and the fume[s] allowed to go up the ear from a coffee pot’, ‘liquor of an oyster’, ‘drops from an ashen bough put in a fire’, ‘vapour from camomile, hyssop etc’, ‘bacon’, ‘taking the waters at Bath’, and ‘a Lent fig, skinned, beaten and wrapped in lawn [a form of linen]’.

Problems with eel fisheries appear in the records of the Avon Association for the Protection of Salmon Fisheries: in 1831 there is a complaint that ‘the racks of an eel stage at Bickton [were] continued after 10 March’, whilst a few years later ‘the door of an eel stage [was] locked and the rack up, resulting in a number of young salmon being found dead and dying’. In 1838 the management of eel stages was the subject of a court case, *The Queen v Joseph Legg*.

None of these sources gives a coherent account of the practice of eel fishing throughout the county, but taken together they give rich picture of an ancient practice, now sadly gone with the demise of eel populations.



*Eel pots or 'bucks' on the Test at Leckford, where at one time three-quarters of a ton of eels might be caught in one night (HRO 1A13/C1)*

**Please turn over for the forthcoming events booking forms**

For full details of events, please see pages 2-3.

**HAMPSHIRE ARCHIVES TRUST AGM**

The Annual General Meeting of the Hampshire Archives Trust will take place at Churcher's College, Ramshill, Petersfield, Hants GU31 4AS on Saturday 19th October 2019 at 2.15pm in the Lecture Theatre and Gallery, by kind permission of the Headmaster. To book, please:

*Either* return this booking slip to HAT Events (AGM) c/o 236 Hunts Pond Road, Fareham, PO14 4PG, enclosing a SAE for written acknowledgment or adding an e-mail address for electronic acknowledgment.

*or* e-mail [events@hampshirearchivestrust.co.uk](mailto:events@hampshirearchivestrust.co.uk) providing the information as below.

*or* book online at [www.hampshirearchivestrust.co.uk](http://www.hampshirearchivestrust.co.uk).

Payment for tea can be *either* by cheque for £3.00 pp payable to Hampshire Archives Trust *or* by BACS (sort code 30-99-71 HAT a/c 00361865) giving your name and AGM as reference.

✂.....

Member's name.....

Guest's name (if applicable).....

Member's address.....

.....Postcode.....

Daytime tel.no.....

Email.....

No. of places .....No. of tea(s) required.....

Method of payment for tea (£3.00pp).....

**HAMPSHIRE ARCHIVES TRUST  
&  
HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLANDS HISTORIC  
CHURCHES TRUST**

**Joint Christmas party at Hampshire Record Office,  
Winchester**



Thursday 12th December 2019, 7pm-8.30pm

Hampshire Archives Trust once again joins with Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust for our annual Christmas party. The evening will start with a talk, 'Faith and Fun: Free Church Sponsored Social Activities in late Victorian and Edwardian Basingstoke' by Roger Ottewill, Chair of the Local History Section of the Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society, followed by festive party food and wine.

Please use the booking form overleaf. Members may bring one guest each; corporate members may send up to two representatives. **Cost £10 each.** Numbers are limited, so we may need to conduct a ballot. If you book and are then unable to come, please contact us as soon as possible. The Record Office is on the town side of Winchester Railway Station (for map and nearby car parks, see [www.hants.gov.uk/archives](http://www.hants.gov.uk/archives)).

**HAT/HHCT Christmas party  
Thursday 12th December 2019, 7- 8.30pm**

Please inform us in advance of any special needs, including accessibility needs. Your booking is successful unless you hear otherwise after the closing date (2nd December) and no refunds are possible after this date.

✂.....

HAT/HHCT CHRISTMAS PARTY on Thursday 12th December 2019

Please reserve me.....place(s). I enclose £..... (£10 per person; cheques payable to Hampshire Archives Trust)

Name/representing.....

Address.....

Email.....

Daytime tel.....Guest.....

Please return this slip with your payment to Hampshire Archives Trust, Hampshire Record Office, Sussex Street, Winchester SO23 8TH by Monday 2nd December 2019

Privacy notice: The personal data you provide on this form will only be used to process this booking. HAT will retain the information for six years from the end of the current financial year for audit purposes. The legal basis for our use of this information is to achieve the legitimate interests of HAT; our privacy notice has previously been sent to all HAT members and is available on request to HAT at the above address.  
Hampshire Archives Trust (reg charity no 294312)

## Hampshire Record Office news

Adrienne Allen, Sarah Farley and David Rymill, Archivists

### Recent additions to the archives

As usual the Record Office has received a number of interesting accessions. **Personal, family and estate records** have included:

Correspondence of **Lady Benita Alanbrooke** of Hartley Wintney concerning her work with the Women's Voluntary Service for Civil Defence and the Hants and Surrey Borders branch of the Royal Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, 1940s-60s (67A18).

Farming account books of **James Reeves** of Up Somborne, 1842-90 (79A18). James Reeves was born in 1820. The family were copyhold tenants of an estate in Up Somborne, held from the Dean and Chapter of Winchester, and after his father's death in 1862 he continued to farm the land and bought the freehold from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners in 1869. He was Vice-President of the Romsey Agricultural Society and Secretary of the Stockbridge Labourers' Friends Association. The labour accounts list payments to individual labourers and include details of work done, and also payments for sundries such as sweeping chimneys and washing.

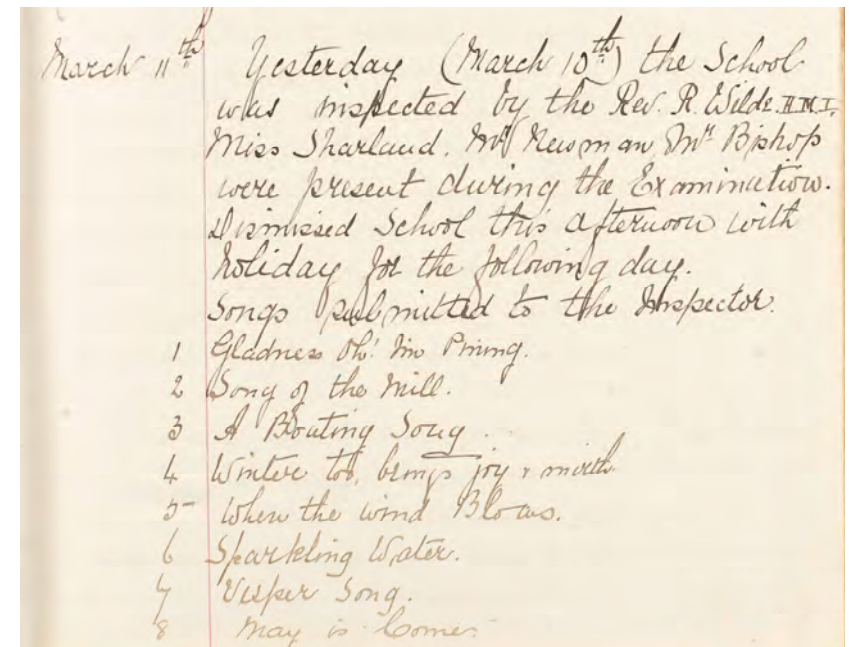
Papers relating to the **Canning** and **Comyns** families of East Woodhay and Highclere, from the mid 19th century onwards, including photographs of Highclere houses and scenes, correspondence and legal documents including title deeds. The two families were related by marriage: Charles Canning, senior married Alice Comyns in 1874. (3A19, cataloguing in progress).

Diaries compiled by George Edward **Lennox-Boyd** during hunting trips from Broadley House, Sway, 1926-34, comprising diary entries (giving details of location of hunt, type of quarry and successful kills, the weather, accompanying riders, etc.), and including newscuttings about other hunts in the area, cartoons and articles concerning related countryside matters, c1926-34 (6A19).

Thanks to a grant from the Trust, we were able to purchase, in an online auction on 18th April, two medieval deeds to land in Lockerley (59A19/1-2): a grant of a tenement in 'Lokerle' by William Kybbett to John Kybbett, son of William, in 1420, witnessed by John Skillyng, John Wallop and others, and a grant of land in the village of 'Lokyrley' in 1429 by John and William Serle to John Kybbott, for which the witnesses included Robert Wythed and William Esteet. We are very grateful to the Trust for supporting this purchase.

### School records have included:

Records of **Funtley Board/Council School**, later Funtley County Primary School, then Orchard Lee Junior School, Fareham (29A19). The records include a log book, 1877-1905. Some early entries record children's absence because of sickness, bad weather, a fair visiting town and gleaning in the fields, and there are lists of songs sung by the children (*below*).





### Business records have included:

Records relating to **Dicks (Electrical Installations) Ltd.**, of Winchester, and predecessors, plumbers, gas-fitters and electrical installers, including minutes of meetings, c1960s-2009 (incomplete); correspondence, c1930s-80s; an estimates book, c1960s-80s; wages records, 1960s; other financial records, 1960s-80s; photographs, early 20th century-1990s, and a sample books showing lighting fixtures and fittings, and examples of the firm's work, c1920s-80s (13A19).

The firm was started in 1862 in Jewry Street by John Dicks (originally of Kirkcaldy, Scotland), as plumbers and gas fitters. It moved to 20 High Street, then to 149/150 High Street, and later to Eastgate Street, before moving in 1965 to newly-built premises at Winnall Valley Road. In its early days the firm fitted out some of the first houses in Winchester to have central heating; they moved into electrical installations in the early 20th century, and jobs included Winchester Cathedral's first electric lighting in c1934 (reflected in the correspondence), and many prestigious properties around the south, including Beaulieu Abbey and Tichborne House.

John Dicks's son inherited the business, and when he died in 1920 his daughter Jeanie took over. Jeanie Dicks was one of the first members of Electrical Contractors Association and its only woman associate in the early years. She ran a successful business, the firm becoming one of the largest installation firms in the south, diversifying into modern technology, such as radio and TV installations, public address equipment, etc. She married Ian McVean in Winchester Cathedral in 1937. Jeanie sold the electrical concern of the business to Charlie Weeks in 1960. The firm closed in 2018. You can discover more about Jeanie Dicks in our blog (see page 31) and at a talk in Winchester Discovery Centre on 21st September ([www.winchesterheritageopendays.org](http://www.winchesterheritageopendays.org); booking essential).

Ledger of a grocery and brewer's business belonging to the **Twine** family of Kiln Lane, Old Alresford, 1880-93 (24A19). The deposit includes details of birth, marriage and death dates for the Twine family, with copy photographs of the family in c1908 and of a W H Twine beer bottle.

### Records of local societies and organisations have included:

**Basingstoke Town FC** football programmes for matches played by the club, 1971-98 (mainly home matches, with some away fixtures) (39A19).

**Hampshire Antiques Society** records, throughout its history from 1967 to 2010. The Society met each month, in Winchester, and had speakers on topics relating to antiques, many of them well-known experts from *Antiques Roadshow*, as well as specialists from the National Trust, museums, galleries and auction houses (46A19).

**Silchester and District Temperance Prize Band** grew from the Little London and Charter Ley Band, which for several years assisted the Primitive Methodist churches at their services. The Ley Band was formed in 1913, with only four members. By 1921 Silchester Temperance Band had 29 members, but it had closed by 1957. The records (47A19) include a volume of accounts, committee minutes, list of instruments, uniforms and owners' names, 1926-57; a programme for a 'Band Festival and Contest', September 1921; subscription books, 1920s-30s; a photograph of the band, 1925 (*below*); and papers about the sale of instruments and the band hut, with the final electricity bill from 1957.



**Horndean Women's Institute** records, including record books of monthly meetings, 1929-2013, and committee minutes, 1923-2013 (88A18). The records also include two beautifully compiled scrapbooks: the first, produced in 1951-79, contains many old photographs, postcards and written accounts of the history of Horndean, including information about local industries, such as Gales Brewery and the textile factory Sixten and Casey Ltd. The second was compiled in 1965, to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of Women's Institutes, and includes photographs, leaflets, cuttings and postcards illustrating life in Horndean in 1965; the fabric used for the cover was designed and printed by Sixten and Casey.

**Compton and Shawford Cricket Club** records (50A19). The club began playing cricket in the 1920s at Compton Street, on a field behind the school and church. After the Second World War, the playing-field on Compton Down was given to the parish and the club moved there. In 1960 the cricket and football clubs combined to form Compton and Shawford Sports Club; this merged with Chandlers Ford Cricket Club in 1996 to form Compton and Chandlers Ford CC, which still plays at Compton. This small archive includes committee minutes, 1935-54, and two team photographs, c1950s-60s.

#### **Photographic and pictorial records have included:**

**Albums of photographs**, taken by a Hampshire resident, from 1976 to 2013, showing churches, chapels, pubs, cottages and other significant buildings in Hampshire, meticulously captioned and dated throughout (*see inside back cover*). Two additional volumes labelled 'nostalgia' contain photographs of old cars, buses and traction engines (42A19).

Photograph of small portraits of the members of **Basingstoke Toc H**, all identified by name, dated 1932 (17A19).

#### **Maps and plans have included:**

Water-coloured plan of the Mill Farm estate at **Greatham** and **Hawkley**, formerly owned by Francis Love Beckford, and bought by the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty, early 19th century (64A18; *see back cover*).

#### **Local Studies Collection: some new books and pamphlets**

Here are some recent additions to the collection; the online catalogue at [www.hants.gov.uk/library](http://www.hants.gov.uk/library) gives further details and other new titles.

Recent local history books include *A History of Hartley Wintney Village circa 1910-1920* by the Hartley Wintney Local History Group (2nd edition, 2018; 942.271); *Hale Tales* by Georgina Babey (2016, 942.275); and *Winchester's Anglo-Saxon, Medieval and Later Suburbs: Excavations 1971-86* by Patrick Ottaway, Ken Qualmann and others, which includes insights into sites in Sussex Street close to HRO, amongst others (2018, 930.109422735 outsize).

Older local history books added to the collection include *Memories of Milford-on-Sea* by Robert Walker (2004, 942.275), and *Eversley Gardens and Others* by Rose G Kingsley, daughter of the Revd Charles Kingsley, concerning her garden at Keys, Eversley, the Bramshill House gardens, and her memories of the Eversley Rectory garden (1907, 712.6).

Books about church history include *Andover Priory*, an expansion by Martin Coppen of Richard Arnold Jones's booklet (2019, 942.2732); *The Crinoline Church, Eastney Barracks: The Story of the Royal Marine Artillery Church, its Chaplains and its Baptisms, 1866-1905* by Dennis Bill which lists over 2,000 baptisms, most (although not all) of children of RMA personnel (2016, 726.5); and *Espying Heaven: The Stained Glass of Charles Eamer Kempe and his Artists* by Adrian Barlow, referring to several windows in Winchester Cathedral (2019, 748.5092).

Recent books featuring Hampshire organisations include *From Then Until Now: A History of Hayling Island Ladies' Golf Club* by Helen Rees, Viv Fitch and Bill John (2018, 796.35206), and *Ninety Years of Southampton Operatic Society* by Terry O'Farrell (2014, 792.50942276). Biographies recently added include *The Reverend Richard Wake (1831-1915): Somborne's Pioneering American Colonist* by Gordon T Pearson (2019, B/WAK), and *Made in Hampshire: Family Fortunes over Four Generations* by Liz Shurlock, exploring the Rose, Knight and Priscott families, in Kings Somborne, Fareham, Petersfield, etc (2017, B/SHU).

## Events and activities at Hampshire Record Office

*Exhibitions, in the Record Office foyer*

Till 17 Sep: Voices for heritage: exploring LGBT+ history in Hampshire.

Mid-September onwards: exhibitions from the **Heritage Open Day** Winchester team, on the theme of notable women in Hampshire history.

Hampshire Archives and Local Studies and Wessex Film and Sound Archive will be participating in the Heritage Open Day scheme again this year, on Saturday 21st September. We will offer two guided tours (11am [fully booked] and 2pm [5 spaces remaining]), which must be booked in advance ([www.winchesterheritageopendays.org](http://www.winchesterheritageopendays.org)), and our pop-up cinema will be in the garden again (11am-3pm, no booking required).

*The Archive Ambassador training scheme: £30, booking essential: 01962 846154*

4 Oct, 10am-3.45pm: Join our unique training day and learn how to preserve and catalogue archival collections, digitise and make your collection accessible online, or create new archives through oral history.

For more information about events, please visit [www.hants.gov.uk/archives](http://www.hants.gov.uk/archives) or ring 01962 846154. For details of Wessex Film and Sound Archive events, see page 34-35.

You may like to follow us on social media via the links from [www.hants.gov.uk/archives](http://www.hants.gov.uk/archives), near the foot of the page. You can find our blog at <https://hampshirearchivesandlocalstudies.wordpress.com> or by clicking on the round blue 'blog' button near the foot of the homepage. Topics recently featured in posts by staff, volunteers and researchers include the electrical contractor Jeanie Dicks (see p 27), Peace Day in 1919, Georgian theatres in Gosport, Portsmouth and Winchester, and the will and inventory of George Hall, a Herriard yeoman, 1619-20. Please contact [archives.enquiries@hants.gov.uk](mailto:archives.enquiries@hants.gov.uk) if you have a blog in you, whether a favourite archive you want to highlight, or a topic you have been investigating. Blogs can be short amounts of text with illustrations!

## Wessex Film and Sound Archive

Sarah Farley, Heather Needham and Zoë Viney

### Acquisitions

New deposits of visual accessions include the following: **Hampshire Wildlife Trust** deposited DVDs including one made in 2007 containing interviews with some founder members about their memories of the early days of the Trust, which was established in 1960 (AV1343).

We were very pleased to receive two 16mm cinefilms made at **Price's School**, Fareham in 1967. They show boys in lessons, assemblies and taking part in sports and other activities at the school (AV1598). These films complement the paper archives we hold from this school. Also on an education theme, we received a film made in 2018 (part of a project which involved our Film Archive Officer and Into Film) showing children from **Barton Primary School**, Isle of Wight, taking part in a one day workshop exploring archive footage of the island (AV1601).

We have received a number of amateur films, including a DVD of maypole dancing in **Milford-on-Sea** in 2002 (AV1050), 8mm cinefilm of family trips to the **New Forest** in 1958 and the **Farnborough Airshows**, 1958-60 (AV1609) and also a 16mm cinefilm of Farnborough Airshow in 1968, plus footage of a Shackleton aeroplane in flight (AV1606). We were pleased to receive (on DV-Cam) some unique footage taken in 2004 of the **Royal Clarence Yard**, Gosport, before and during its conversion to apartments that year. The film maker believes he was the only person to have access to film this conversion (AV1608).

We also received a number of sound recordings, including oral history recordings about the first 50 years of **The Gosport Society**, (AV1607); oral history recordings of former staff and pupils of **Swanmore School**, 1961-2018 (AV1603); recordings made by Canon Patrick Elkins of services at St Mary's Church, **Bransgore**, (AV1612); and an addition to the **Addis Radio 2-10** collection, including an interview with two Oxford University students who planned to build a pyramid in Christ Church Meadow in 1975 (AV1583).

## Activities

### *Adults' Health and Care – Archive Film for Reminiscence*

During the 2018/19 financial year we piloted a project using archive film for reminiscence in community settings and care homes. We offered the loan of a DVD containing a range of material from the region spanning 1930 to 1980, free of charge, to those working with the elderly and/or those living with dementia. During the course of the pilot we screened films to over 200 people in community and residential settings.

We were keen to ensure that users of the service evaluated the project for us, and we have used feedback from them to shape our new and improved offer. We learned that:

A recorded commentary on silent films would enhance the experience

- When commentary is given, more (rather than less) would be preferred (which we have adapted as we've gone along)
- More women than men attended the screenings
- The predominant age group was 70+
- The most uptake was within care and community settings with a high proportion of dementia-affected individuals
- The content selection and relevancy were rated highly (100%)
- There was a general feeling that location-specific DVDs would be appreciated.

We launched the upgraded DVDs, which contain an ambient soundtrack and recorded commentary, during Dementia Action Week in May and the feedback is excellent.

### *Working in Shadows*

We have been successful in obtaining a Film Hub South West Open Call Grant to assist in the delivery of a project 'Working in Shadows', also supported by HAT (see page 9), focussing on a selection of films from **Elliott's of Newbury** (AV338). When the Second World War was declared in 1939, women were called upon to fill all manner of roles, on the Home Front and abroad, and their lives were drastically changed. Elliott's was a manufacturing firm whose workforce, in the 1940s, was largely female. The factory was adapted for war work, and amongst other things was responsible for producing various Spitfire components as one

of many Shadow Factories. The firm commissioned a series of films in this period, and a selection of these will form the basis for this project. Four films: *Spitfire Components*; *A War Effort – Construction of Aeroplane fuselages*; *Workshop Groups*, *The Home Guard and NFS*; and *Our Next Effort* will be edited together into a 40-minute montage, bringing archive material to life in an exciting and engaging way to reach non-traditional archive users. We hope that by sharing the footage ahead of the start of the project we can attract stars of the film to come forward and speak about their experiences.

The resulting screenings will be an audio-visual feast – showcasing the work of the filmmaker, shedding light on the untold story of Elliott's workers and engendering a sense of excitement about the possibilities of archives. We hope we can help to articulate the history of a generation whose lives were so dramatically altered by the war time experiences. This autumn we will deliver cinema and theatre screenings with a live musical accompaniment and pop up exhibition, and screenings in local libraries without music, but with a recorded spoken commentary.

Seven screenings with live musical accompaniment have been arranged:  
NST City, Southampton – 12th September, 6.30pm  
West Berkshire Museum, Newbury – 21st September, 2pm  
The Plaza, Romsey – 2nd October, 6pm  
The Forge (at the Anvil), Basingstoke – 21st November, 8pm  
Forest Arts, New Milton – 24th November, 2pm  
Portsmouth University, Eldon Building – 28th November, 7pm  
Hampshire Record Office, Winchester – 5th December, 6.30pm  
Please visit <http://wessexfilm.eventbrite.com> to book, or ring 01962 846154 (£7; £4 concessions).

### *Mobile Cinema Roadshow*

This summer we are taking our cinema tent on tour, and between June and September we are visiting locations across Hampshire to spread the word about our revamped Archive Film for Reminiscence DVDs. The first event has already taken place and was a great success, with over 130 people enjoying local footage in our mobile cinema. Future venues include the Romsey Show at Broadlands on Saturday 14th September.



### *Caught in the Act – A Silent Cinema double*

We have partnered with prolific silent cinema organisation South West Silents (SWS) to deliver a first in the history of archive film at WFSA, securing the talents of well-known and respected musician Stephen Horne who will provide a live improvised score to accompany a screening of local archive film with a crime theme.

The evening event will be held on 19th September and will feature a montage of crime-themed local material and a special screening of the 1915 film *Regeneration*. Please visit [www.hants.gov.uk/librariesandarchives/archives/events](http://www.hants.gov.uk/librariesandarchives/archives/events) or ring 01962 846154 to book a place (£15).

### *Volunteers – Remote Cataloguing*

Our remote cataloguing volunteers continue to do a great job in supporting the cataloguing of new accessions, and recently volunteers have been able to branch out into sound cataloguing.

The Evans Films collection (AV40) contains footage of the family's Adderwell Works, Frome, which hosted a Works Wonders lunchtime entertainment for radio during the Second World War. The factory had moved from Portsmouth in 1941 to avoid the risk of bomb damage.

South West Silents & Wessex Film & Sound Archive  
Present  
**Caught in the Act**  
A silent cinema crime double bill. Featuring amateur footage from the archives and a special screening of the 1915 crime drama 'Regeneration'.  
With live improvisation by internationally renowned musician Stephen Horne  
19 September 2019  
6.30pm – 8.30pm  
£15  
Hampshire Record Office,  
Sussex Street, Winchester  
SO23 8TH  
To book visit [www.hants.gov.uk/archives-events](http://www.hants.gov.uk/archives-events)  
tel 01962 846154

Hampshire County Council  
SOUTH WEST SILENTS  
THE NATIONAL LOTTERY  
FAN

A member of the public spotted her late father on a clip from the film on our website. She ordered copies of the film and of a recording of a radio show featuring her father, and commented afterwards 'When your father tells you bedtime stories of his time in the war, they become treasured memories of your own. To actually see him performing on stage bought back so many memories of my father. I was also able to show my own children a visual record as they had grown up on stories of Grandpa George and the concerts.' It's great to have such feedback about the power of archive film, and the enthusiasm for sharing footage.

### *Farewell to Ed Thomas*

*Heather Needham writes:* We were sorry to say farewell to WFSA technician Elfed (known as Ed) Thomas (*below*), who retired on 6th June 2019. Ed had worked for WFSA since 22nd April 2010, so had spent nine years tackling the many and varied archive formats and types of playback kit it comprises, from gramophone disks to CDs, 8mm film to DVDs, video tape machines to Apple Macs.

He has been an entertaining and cheerful colleague to work with, and the staff room will be quieter without his jokes and anecdotes! On his last day, we gave him some gifts to thank him for all his work, and to mark his retirement. He is a Welsh speaker, and so, as his manager, I ended my short speech on the occasion by saying 'dymuniadau gorau ar gyfer eich ymddeoliad' – 'best wishes for your retirement'. Whether my pronunciation rendered it as that, or something completely different, Ed didn't say! (*See also inside back cover.*)





## From the National Motor Museum, Beaulieu

Patrick Collins, Research and Enquiries Officer

Established in 1972 by the late Edward, 3rd Baron Montagu, the National Motor Museum at Beaulieu, together with its forerunner the Montagu Motor Museum, has long been internationally famous for its collection of motor vehicles, reflecting the history of motoring on the roads and race tracks of Britain. Located in the museum's Collections Centre, the Motoring Research Service is principally involved with providing public access to the extensive collections including the Motoring Archives and Reference Library.



*The reading room counter*



*A researcher in the reading room*

For those wishing to carry out their own research a reading room is available which can be booked in advance of visits. Research visitors include journalists, authors, professional and amateur car restorers, family historians and numerous students. Given the museum's international reputation, the Motoring Research Service also receives a large number of enquiries from around the world. Recently we have responded to enquiries from as far afield as the Czech Republic, the USA, Australia, New Zealand, India and Chile. Full details of the Motoring Research Service can be found online at <https://nationalmotormuseum.org.uk/enquiries/motoring-research-service/>.

## From the University of Southampton Library: Special Collections

Karen Robson, Head of Archives

### Events and activities

Autumn 2019 will be the centenary of the move of what was then the University College of Southampton to the Highfield campus site. Although the buildings at Highfield had been completed in 1914, they were used as a military hospital throughout the war period and the College remained in its old site in Southampton High Street. To mark this event, the Special Collections have been posting a series of blogs at <https://specialcollectionsuniversityofsouthampton.wordpress.com/> tracing the development of University life at Highfield from 1919 onwards. Starting in January 2019 with a blog focusing on the move in 1919, the monthly posts have continued to cover subsequent decades; the final post, in September, will feature life at Highfield in the new century.



*University College, south wing, staff and students, 1920s  
(MS1/Phot/39 ph 3112)*

The autumn Special Collections exhibition *A philanthropic spirit* will run from 7th October to 6th December 2019. The exhibition will consider both the act of philanthropy and the work of individual philanthropists, including the 7th Earl of Shaftesbury. It also will feature, in this centenary year for the Highfield campus, material about the impact of philanthropy on the development of the University. In November 2019, Special Collections will host an open afternoon related to the exhibition and the collections and featuring a talk on Lord Shaftesbury by Professor David Brown: further details of this will be publicised on the Special Collections website.

The Special Collections Gallery is open Monday to Friday, 10am-4pm. Please visit [www.southampton.ac.uk/archives/newsandevents/calendar.html](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/archives/newsandevents/calendar.html) for further information about Special Collections exhibitions and events.

*Right: 7th Earl of Shaftesbury (MS62 Broadlands Archives SHA/MIS/55)*



## From Winchester College

Suzanne Foster, College Archivist

This summer, Winchester College has published a book about its collections. *50 Treasures from Winchester College* is a collection of short essays about fifty of the most interesting, unique and important objects from across the school's collections. Each essay has been written by a member of the school community, including current and former staff, pupils, old boys and members of the school's governing body. The items featured include documents from the archives relating to the foundation of the school, and outstanding items from the college's collection of paintings, Greek antiquities, Chinese ceramics, English silver and rare books.

There are some unusual items too: a scientific experiment, a model ship made by French prisoners of war held in Winchester in the 18th century, tapestries, stained glass, and an artefact from the 1896 Olympic Games.

The book is available to purchase for £20 from the School's Treasury (<https://treasury.winchestercollege.org>) and from P&G Wells bookshop in College Street ([www.bookwells.co.uk](http://www.bookwells.co.uk)).

## From Portsmouth History Centre

Anna Delaney, History Centre Officer

### City of Stories

Throughout 2019 Portsmouth Libraries and Archive Service has been running the City of Stories project, a two-year festival of creative writing and storytelling inspired by the city's archive collections. Amanda Garrie became Portsmouth History Centre's first Poet-in-Residence and has used the archive collections as a basis for her own work and also to encourage others to write. On 12th August Amanda hosted an evening at Central Library in which participants presented their poetry and prose written in response to various records including those relating to the emigration of children from Portsmouth to Canada in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Photographs of Clarence Pier fun fair and Will Brown's draper's shop were also used to inspire work.

'City of Stories' has also worked with the Portsmouth Rant Music project to create musical responses to the archive. Young people from the BYAC, Brook Club, Hillside and Wymering, and Portsea youth clubs took part in a series of workshops with Paul Weston to write songs and poetry inspired by photographs of Portsmouth from the time of the Second World War, and the destruction caused by the Blitz.

Performances took place during the afternoon of 26th July in various areas of Portsmouth Central Library, and also in the evening at the Charles Dickens Centre. A musical set on the balcony of the third-floor library café was a treat for passers-by in Guildhall Square.

The City of Stories project is not over yet and will continue with a new artist-in-residence and archive displays in our North End and Baffins branch libraries. The service is also running a short story competition with a choice of three images from the archive collection to use as inspiration. The closing date is 8th November 2019, and full terms and conditions and details of how to enter are available at [www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/news/get-writing-and-enter-our-short-story-competition](http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/news/get-writing-and-enter-our-short-story-competition). 'City of Stories' is funded by the National Lottery and the Arts Council.

## In Memoriam

We have been very sorry to learn of the deaths of several Trust members, who all helped Hampshire's archives in various ways.

**Suzanne Hudson** (*right*), who died in April, served as a Trustee and Membership Secretary for many years, stepping down in May 2018. She organised several AGMs, and arranged numerous visits including the always popular and fondly-remembered visits to Cranbury Park as well as keeping the membership list.



Members who attended events that she planned will remember her for her warm and friendly personality. Her support of Hampshire and its heritage and environment was such that members may be surprised to hear she had lived, studied and worked in many parts of the UK before, to our benefit, settling in Hampshire. After schooling in Llandaff, and reading geography at Aberystwyth, she enjoyed a varied career: after working as a town planner in Milton Keynes (working on the innovative strategic plan for the new town) and Coventry, she followed her parents and maternal grandfather into the teaching profession, at Stratford-on-Avon and then as a lecturer at Wolverhampton Polytechnic.

When her husband Keith moved to Portsmouth City Council, she lectured in further education colleges at South Downs and Barton Peveril, and became an Open University Tutor in Social Science: several of her students were in the Royal Navy, and one late submission was explained by the message 'Panic on, off to Gib.' The family moved to Otterbourne when Keith became an Assistant Director of Education for Hampshire County Council. Initially Suzanne continued with the OU and taught at Ditcham Park School and, later, Peter Symonds' College.

In the late 1980s she became a Research Officer with the Structure Plan Group in Hampshire's Planning Department, working on a major housing survey, before being appointed to the joint post of Assistant Director of Hampshire Council of Community Service (HCCS) and Secretary of the Hampshire Association of Parish and Town Councils.

During her 15 years with HAPTC she oversaw its transition into a fully independent body, and championed the cause of town and parish councils which she maintained strenuously were not 'parochial'. She was invited to become a Hampshire Ambassador in 1998. When she met the Duke of Edinburgh and he asked which local council she represented she replied 'All 240 in Hampshire, Sir' which took him aback somewhat.

HAT was one of many organisations that she supported, especially after retiring in 2005 – she was also a parish councillor, joint Chair of Otterbourne Conservation Group, and a member of a French conversation group, a theatre group and a NADFAS Church Recorders' Group. We are very grateful to Suzanne and her family for requesting donations to HAT, in lieu of flowers, at her thanksgiving service. She will be fondly remembered and missed.

**Richard Stobart**, who died on 1st January, was a generous supporter of the Trust. After serving for most of his career in the Metropolitan Police, he was promoted to the post of Assistant Chief Constable for the Hampshire Constabulary from which he retired in July 1986.

The 6th **Earl of Normanton**, who died on 13th February, was a Vice-President of the Trust from 1991 to 2010. An extensive archive of the

family and the Somerley Estate is held in HRO (21M57 and 34M69). Lord Normanton hosted the Trust's fourth AGM at Somerley in 1990, and an evening visit in 2000.

**Ted Mason**, who died on 14th April, wrote the Trust's original constitution, at a time when he was an Assistant County Secretary within Hampshire County Council, and he had remained an active member, assisting with the recent revision of the constitution.

## Competition

As the closing date for the spring competition is still in the future as we go to press, the results are being held over until next time.

Here is your next challenge. This is a zig-zag puzzle; each answer is a five-letter word – simply replace the dots and numbers with letters.

- 1 ● ● ● ● A Corner in Basingstoke
- 2 ● ● ● Mrs Hargreaves née Liddell
- ● 3 ● ● A building material – it may be knapped
- ● ● 4 ● Boscombe, Branksome or Durley
- ● ● ● 5 A saint from here – with a namesake in Canterbury
- ● ● 6 ● A bridge over the Stour
- ● 7 ● ● Between Romsey and Moorcourt
- 8 ● ● ● He remodelled Highclere Castle
- 9 ● ● ● ● Hayling, Warnborough or Wonston
- 10 ● ● ● A mariner's map
- ● 11 ● ● Another name for Goodworth Clatford
- ● ● 12 ● A workhouse or the area it covered
- ● ● ● 13 I shall love (Latin)
- ● ● 14 ● Home

The spaces marked with numbers, read downwards, will spell out the name of a fictional character. For a chance of winning a book token, send the name of the character to the editor (postal and email addresses on page 1) by Saturday 30th November.

## Hampshire Archives Trust (Registered Charity No 294312)

**President:** N J B Atkinson, Esq,  
HM Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire (re-elected Nov 2018)

**Vice Presidents** (dates of latest election shown in brackets)

Sir Leonard Appleyard KCMG (Oct 2017), The Earl of Carnarvon (Nov 2018),  
Rt Revd T Dakin, Bishop of Winchester (Nov 2018),  
Lady Mary Fagan LG DCVO (Nov 2018),  
Rt Revd C R J Foster, Anglican Bishop of Portsmouth (Nov 2018),  
Mrs H F Hindson MBE (Oct 2017), Mr J D G Isherwood CMG (Oct 2017),  
The Earl of Malmesbury DL (Nov 2018)

**Board of Trustees** (dates of latest election to the Board shown in brackets)

**Chairman:** Mr David Livermore OBE (Oct 2017)

**Vice-Chairman and Membership Secretary:** Mrs Charlotte Bailey (Oct 2016)

**Secretary:** Mrs Sue Woolgar (Oct 2016)

**Treasurer:** Mr David Canniford (Oct 2017)

Dr Cheryl Butler (Oct 2017), Lord Montagu of Beaulieu (Oct 2017),  
Mrs Zoë Seenan (Nov 2018),

Dr Barry Shurlock (appointed by the Board, Jan 2019),

Mr David Spurling (Oct 2017), Mr Dick Treglown (Nov 2018),

Mr Mike Womersley (Nov 2018), Mr Michael Woodhall BEM (Nov 2018)

**Invited Associate Board Members:** Mrs Caroline Edwards (County Archivist),  
Mr Michael Gunton (Senior Archivist, Portsmouth Library & Archive Service),  
Ms Joanne Smith (Archivist, Southampton Archives),  
and a representative of Hampshire County Council

**Independent Auditor:** Martin & Co, Chartered Accountants, Winchester

**Newletter Editor:** Mr David Rymill

**Events organisers:**

Ms Sue Chopping, Mrs Janet Hurrell,

Mr John Isherwood, CMG, Mr Dick Treglown

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