

HUNTINGDONSHIRE LOCAL HISTORY

# ALMANACK

## The Newsletter of the Huntingdonshire Local History Society Summer 2015



Castor House

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*Inside you will find the programme of this summer's excursions. We hope you will find them interesting and will join us on several.*

*David Cozens  
Vice-Chairman & Excursions Co-ordinator*

## **Afternoon, Saturday 27th June In and around King's Cross**

This is a fascinating area for our industrial history which the redevelopment of the past few years has revealed and sought to enhance. Ashley Mather and her partner Mark will guide us on a walk in the area between the Canal Museum, housed in a former ice warehouse on Regents Canal, the British Library and the St Pancras / King's Cross railway complex. A more detailed itinerary will be produced shortly. It may be worthwhile exploring travel with friends to obtain reduced fares.



**Meet 1.30 p.m. outside the front of King's Cross station. Cost £3.00-£5.00 for entry to museum/refreshments, payable on the day. Please book by Friday 19th June using form, or by email or phone to David.**

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## **Afternoon , Wednesday 22nd July Castor House, Castor**

A tour of this classic Queen Anne house and gardens lasting around two hours. The house is the most striking of several grand houses in this village west of Peterborough was built for the Bishop of Peterborough as a summer residence around 1650. Sir Richard Winfrey bought it in 1919 and it is his relatives who still live there. Bunny Guinness helped renovate the garden in 2008.

Members may also want to take the opportunity, before or after, to visit the very remarkable St Kyneburgha's parish church, the finest Norman church in the area that includes later wall paintings and also incorporates some of Roman remains.

**Meet at the house at 1.45 for visit at 2.00 p.m. Own Transport. *Please tell us if you need a lift and we will do our best to arrange one.* Cost, incl. tea/coffee & cake: £15.50 Please book by Wednesday 1st July. Book early as limit of 30 on this trip.**

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## **Afternoon, Thursday 20th August Ramsey Walled Garden, Cemetery Chapel and Rural Museum**

It seems time we visited the Walled Kitchen Garden again to see how restoration is progressing. We shall also see another restoration project, just getting underway, involves the chapel in the cemetery. A rare feature concerns the need to protect the public from any infection that may have been the cause of death.



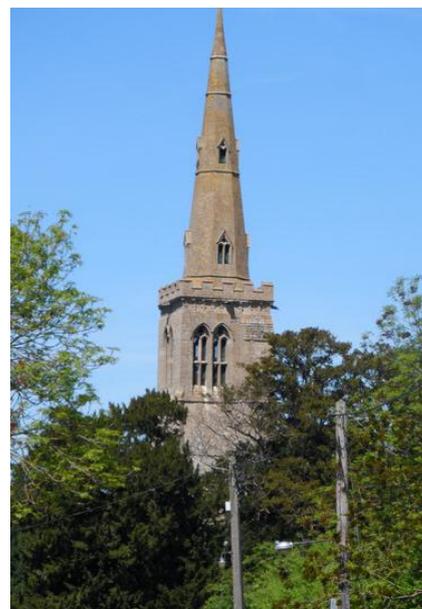
There will be the opportunity to obtain light refreshment at the museum.

**Meet at 2.00 p.m. at Ramsey Rural Museum, Wood Lane, Ramsey, PE26 2XD. Own Transport. *Please tell us if you need a lift and we will do our best to arrange one.* Cost £10.00, including tea. Please book if possible by Friday 31st July; if booking after then, contact Di Raishbrook, 01487-812350 or email her at [roger.raishbrook@btinternet.com](mailto:roger.raishbrook@btinternet.com), no later than Monday 17th August.**

## Evening, Tuesday 8th September Molesworth Church and Catworth

We will visit the church of St Peter, **Molesworth**, a 13th-century church faithfully rebuilt in 1884-5 and containing a large 15th-cent. wall painting of St Christopher, remarkably good and unusually datable by the coat of arms of Sir Stephen Forster, Lord Mayor in 1454.

We will then make our way to **Catworth** to meet Ian Meiklejohn at *The Racecourse*, for 5.45 p.m. Ian will guide us on a walk around the village, including medieval church with interesting monuments and fittings, ending at *The Racecourse* where there will be the opportunity to obtain light refreshment.



**Meet at Molesworth church at 5.00 p.m. Own Transport. Please tell us if you need a lift and we will do our best to arrange one.**

**Cost £10 (donations to churches). Please Book by Friday 4th September**

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### Excursion Notes - Booking

Please use the accompanying form and ~~except for Denton visit~~ pay in advance by cheque.

Please make cheques payable to Huntingdonshire Local History Society. A separate cheque for each excursion is helpful. Send cheques to David Cozens, 70, Upwood Road, Bury, Ramsey, PE26 2PA

Please note especially the 'Book By' date. Early booking is helpful and as deadlines approach we may advertise outside the society to ensure that excursions go ahead. However do telephone David on 01487 815229 if you are able to come at the last minute as outings are seldom over-subscribed. Alternatively his email is [dam.coz@btinternet.com](mailto:dam.coz@btinternet.com), but don't use for urgent communications. Note especially late booking arrangements for July visit.

**Cancellations:** If you cancel before the 'Book By' date your cheque will not be paid in. If you cancel later you may only receive a refund if your place is taken.

**Non-member guests** are welcome. You will receive partial refunds for guest children, in respect of lower entrance fees.

The Society undertakes to make arrangements for the excursions but cannot accept liability for any mishap or loss connected with them. Bookings are only accepted on that understanding.

### CALH Coach Excursion

**Cambridgeshire Association for Local History** is organising a coach trip, from Cambridge, around some of the most interesting of west Norfolk churches, including Wiggshall St Germans, West Walton and Terrington St Clement, on **Tuesday 15 September**, expertly led by Revd Dr Lynne Broughton. If interested, contact Tony Kirby ([akirby121@btinternet.com](mailto:akirby121@btinternet.com)) or speak to Philip Saunders.

## Society News

**Goodliff Fund:** The following is a summary of the awards that are being made this year. Formal presentation will take place in the Autumn.

**£200 to Mr H.W. Goodwin**, for continuing photocopying costs for transcription of St Neots wills and inventories.

**£413 to Dr Chris Thomas**, for publication of a booklet, *Marvellous Mammoths*, arising from the recent acclaimed exhibition at the Norris Museum.

**£422 to Cambridge Gardens Trust**, for publication of a leaflet of places in Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire associated with Lancelot 'Capability' Brown, to be made available free, and to commemorate the tercentenary of Brown's birth in 2016.

**£500 to the Warboys Local History Society**, for publication of a report of its Archaeology Project excavations at Warboys Manor.

**£635 to the Norris Museum, St Ives**, for creation of teaching resource boxes on the Iron and Stone Ages for loan by schools.

**£1,000 to the Norris Museum, St Ives**, towards the re-creation of Norris's study within the planned redeveloped museum, including the restoration of Norris's butterfly cabinet.

**£1,200 to Kate Hadley of the Godmanchester Porch Museum** for creation of an illustrated catalogue of Roman artifacts in private hands.

**£1,050 to Jason Peters of Enfield**, towards production of a book or CD available to order of the Forest history of Huntingdonshire.

**£1,000 to Roger Leivers of Godmanchester**, for publication of a book on the flight and crew of the Stirling N.3703/ 15 Squadron that crashed at Godmanchester in 1942.

**£750 to St Kyneburgha Building Preservation Trust** for publication of an illustrated guide to the Roman settlement of the Lower Nene Valley

Thanks to hard work by our Administrator this year, Kate Hadley, and the society's sub-committee, we once again achieved a good range of applications and are particularly pleased to see a rise in the number of individual projects. If there is something you have been wanting to research and would like a little financial assistance please don't hesitate to speak to a member of the committee about it or email [goodliff.awards@gmail.com](mailto:goodliff.awards@gmail.com) and get your application in early for next year's round.

### Projects

Antonia Liguori ([a.liguori@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:a.liguori@lboro.ac.uk)) of Loughborough University is seeking historical images of Bevills Leam that illustrate its past and current state in connection with a project on Drought and water scarcity.

James Rossington ([JRossington@iwm.org.uk](mailto:JRossington@iwm.org.uk)) is involved with a project at Imperial War Museum Duxford to record stories of American airmen and women and the British people they met.

Charlie Whitham ([burnham1@edgehill.ac.uk](mailto:burnham1@edgehill.ac.uk)), Senior Lecturer at Edge Hill University, is engaged on the local and social impact of the American bases in the UK, and is moving his attention to RAF Alconbury, seeking to engage local people to draw on local knowledge.

Please contact these people (or their institutions if you do not have email) if you are able to help them.