

HUNTINGDONSHIRE LOCAL HISTORY

# ALMANACK

## The Newsletter of the Huntingdonshire Local History Society Summer 2017



*The Grand Gallery, Strawberry Hill House*

*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*

**[www.huntslhs.org.uk](http://www.huntslhs.org.uk)**

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## **A midsummer evening saunter around Elton, Thursday 15 June.**

Ashley Mather, one of our members, warmly welcomes you for a gentle stroll around her historic stone estate village in the north-western corner of the ancient county. We will gather inside All Saints Church to admire and hear about the newly-restored William Morris and other high quality stained glass windows, then venture outside, wishing for a lovely evening. There is a hill in Elton but the pace will be leisurely as we study the buildings and excellent ridge and furrow in the Park by the Church..Sturdy shoes advisable.

**Meet in the church 6.00 p.m. Own Transport.** Allow 45 minutes from Huntingdon (A1 and A605). From A605 turn right into village, go past Black Horse PH and church and turn left into Middle Street and left again into School Lane, where parking by churchyard is possible. Alternatively use Black Horse car park, should you wish to sample their excellent food and garden (plus loos - none at Church) either beforehand or when we finish at approx 8 pm. Early booking advisable on 01832 280591. Pub post code is PE8 6RU for sat-navers.

***Please tell us if you need a lift and we will do our best to arrange one.***  
**No charge. Donations invited on the day to Church & Chapel Fund.**  
**Please Book by Tuesday 13 June**

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## **All day coach excursion, Thursday 20th July Leicester (Cathedral, Richard III Centre and Museums)**

We will arrive at the National Space Centre for a comfort stop & coffee only, and from there will be conducted to the adjoining Abbey Pumping Station Museum for a guided visit. Attractions include the 1891 Beam Engines and displays of Leicester's Industrial Heritage. We will continue to the New Walk Museum & Art Gallery with its collection of Picasso ceramics.

We aim to be back into the centre of Leicester by 1.15 pm. A guided tour of the Richard III Visitor Centre has been booked 3.00- 4.00 pm. Before or after this there will be the opportunity to take refreshment and to visit the Cathedral and the adjacent 15th-century Guildhall [closes 4.30 ]

**Depart Huntingdon Bus Station 9.00 a.m.; leave Leicester 5.15, return 6.45-7.00 p.m.**  
**Other pick-up points (*indicate clearly on form*):** Somersham (Dews) 8.25; St Ives (Houghton Rd) 8.40; Hartford (Longstaff Way) 8.45; Godmanchester (opposite Old Mill car park) 8.50; Huntingdon (Millfield Park) 9.05.

**Cost: £29.00**

**Please book by Monday 3rd July. Early booking would assist our planning.**



## **Afternoon, Wednesday 9th August St Neots Town and Museum**

In 2012 the Society assisted St Neots Museum in purchasing 68 Iron Age gold coins (stater) found by a metal detectorist in the fields of Kimbolton two years earlier. Exhibition has been restricted for insurance reasons but they will be on display this summer. This visit provides an opportunity to see the exhibition of coins and the rest of this growing museum collection. After an initial view we shall depart for an approx. 90min.-long walk (at gentle pace) of the town that has much of historical interest, guided by one of the museum staff, stopping en route at the parish church praised in the revised *Pevsner* as being the most uniform late medieval church in the county and having both interesting glass and monuments. On return there will be tea and chance to look further round the Museum.

**Meet at Museum in New Street (well sign-posted). Own Transport.** Allow 40 minutes from Huntingdon (A1/B1041). Tebbuts Road P&D car park recommended (turn left at Baptist Church, or right at *Pizza Hut* if coming via B1043).



**Cost £7.50 (includes tea with home-made cakes!)  
Please book by Monday 31st July**

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## **All day coach excursion, Wednesday 13th September Little Stanmore church & Chandos Mausoleum, and Strawberry Hill House**

This is a tour of two major sites associated with cultured society of 18th-century London. The main visit is to Horace Walpole's Strawberry Hill House, Twickenham (<http://www.strawberryhillhouse.org.uk/>), the extraordinary gothic home of this famous literary and artistic observer of Georgian England, but en route we will visit the contrasting Little Stanmore church, Edgware, with its stunning baroque decoration, the church in which Handel's Chandos Anthems



were first performed. His patron the Duke of Chandos' great house, Canons Park, stood close by but is long demolished, but his mausoleum adjacent to the church survives and is being opened specially for the visit. At both there will be guided tours. If reading this before 23 May you can hear a taster of the Little Stanmore visit in the interval talk from the recent Radio 3 broadcast of the Anthems at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b08nb32s>. Please bring a picnic lunch to eat in the park at Strawberry Hill House. Refreshments before our tour at 2.00pm will be provided but the cafe is small and as this is a day the House is generally open to the public.

**Leave Huntingdon Bus Station 9.00 a.m.; depart Twickenham 4.30, return 7.00 p.m.**  
This is a joint excursion with Cambridgeshire Association for Local History. Early booking strongly recommended.

**Other pick-up points (*indicate clearly on form*):** Somersham (Dews) 8.25; St Ives (Houghton Rd) 8.40; Hartford (Longstaff Way) 8.45; Godmanchester (opposite Old Mill car park) 9.10; Cambridge (Trumpington Park & Ride) 9.30.

**Cost £35.00**

**Please Book by Monday 28th August**

## Excursion Notes

Please use the accompanying form and pay in advance by cheque.

Note especially the 'Book By' date. Early booking is helpful. However do telephone if you are able to come at the last minute as outings are seldom over-subscribed.

**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 someone else takes your place.

**Non-member guests** are very welcome. You will receive partial refunds on the coach 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.

## Goodliff Awards

The following is a summary of the awards that are being made this year:

**£250 to Dr Charles Beresford**, for a booklet on the painted angel roof of Hemingford Abbots church.

**£250 to Jane Brown**, for a new history of All Saints church and the Methodist chapel, Elton.

**£585 to the St Neots Museum**, for information panels in connection with the Kimbolton coin hoard.

**£250 to Herbert Goodwin**, for copying and binding his volumes of transcripts of local documents relating to St Neots and area for the Record Office.

**£1,000 to Ramsey Rural Museum**, for purchase of film from the East Anglian Film Archive

**£250 to St Neots Community Archive Group**, for a 'poppy trail' tracing war graves around the town.

**£600 to Jonathan Latter**, for a book on Ramsey parish church, illustrating the interaction of local and national events

**£250 to Karen Pauley**, for updating the Godmanchester *Remembering the Somme and Paschendaele* project and producing a book in connection with it.

**£1,000 to Huntingdon Town Council**, for consultants' work towards a Huntingdon Heritage Centre.

**£750 to the Norris Museum, St Ives**, for storage of agricultural implements collection.

**£225 to the Ermine Street Church Academy**, for making a record of the foundation and early days of the school.

**£600 to Dr Ken Sneath**, for publication costs of a book on the 'Consumer Revolution' of the 18th century.

**£350 to The Friends of Ramsey Mortuary Chapels**, for interpretation banners and leaflets on the Chapel and commemorative 'Potato Day'

These awards will be presented at the Society's first Autumn lecture meeting, at Huntingdon Town Hall, on Thursday 12 October. Our President, Simon Thurley, will once again make the awards and will afterwards give a lecture, *Houses of Power, the Places that made Tudor England*, talking about his new book about Tudor royal architecture and reflecting on the Tudor monarchy's perambulations in Huntingdonshire.