

THE (DIGITAL) BULLETIN
CALH 2016 Autumn

Editorial

Welcome to the Autumn Version of the CALH Bulletin for 2016. As you will see, local history is very active in Cambridgeshire. This is but a sample to what is going on in our county. Another sample of activities and talks is given by the Conduit for 2016 which can be downloaded from the Cambridge Antiquarian Society at their website:

<http://camantsoc.org/publ.html>

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CALH Forth coming events 2016

2.15 pm – 4.00 pm St John’s Church Hall,
Hills Road & Blinco Grove Cambridge

5 November David Oates A Bit of a Jam – the history of
Chivers factory at Histon

26 November Robert Hill Being a Blue Badge Guide in
Cambridge

of 1684 and 1706, the latter the best-known version reproduced from a single sheet coloured copy at the Wisbech and Fenland Museum.

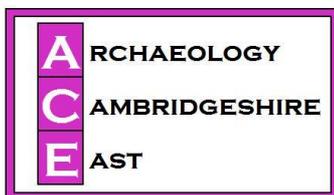
This publication, which is contained within a purpose-made folder, is expected to become an essential reference work for anyone interested in the history of the fens, particularly the great drainage works irreversibly associated with Vermuyden, and to be of interest to anyone who is simply fascinated by remarkable feats of cartography and likes poring over old maps.

The full non-member price is £36.00 but for a limited duration it will be available at £24.00 at conferences, etc. Alternatively people may want to consider subscribing to the society as a member. The annual subscription is £14.00 this year, rising to £17.50 in 2017. Membership entitles you to substantial discounts, usually of about a third, on all previous publications, and subscribers by standing order and entitled to an additional £10.00 off any of the society's backlist bought in a single purchase within their first twelve months of membership. Further details given on the society's website at <http://www.cambsrecordsociety.co.uk/>

ACE and Soham Museum

Here is information about our first archaeology day to be run by our subgroup ACE (Archaeology Cambridgeshire East) which was part of the recent HLF Jigsaw project to start up local amateur archaeology groups in Cambridgeshire. The event is free to all to attend and there will be children's activities throughout the morning. Please direct any questions to: museum@soham.org.uk

Donna Martin
Soham Museum



(ACE)



**Archaeology Cambridgeshire East Proudly present an
Archaeology Open Day "Discovering Archaeology" at
Soham Methodist Church Hall (off Pratt Street)**

Saturday 22nd October 10.00 – 4.00

Have you found something of archaeological interest ?

Are you interested in local archaeology ?

Drop in and talk to our experts

- **Archaeology displays by ACE and Soham Museum**
- **Children's activities 10-12.30**
- **Drop in finds identification – experts on site all day**
- **Finds recording – bring in your artefacts to be formally recorded by local Finds Liaison Officer, Helen Fowler**
- **Update on the Soham Museum 'Big Dig' project**
- **A programme of talks on archaeology**

11.00 Dr Jody Joy – Senior Curator (Archaeology), Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology The Archaeology of Childhood

1.00 Helen Fowler – Finds Liaison Officer, Historic Environment Team, Cambridgeshire County Council

The Portable Antiquities Scheme and Life as an FLO

2.30 Donna Martin – Project Leader, Historian and Detectorist

Archaeology and Treasure Hunting in Soham

Free Admission - All Welcome

Activities, Displays, Stalls, Raffle and Publications

Refreshments all day!

ACE and Soham Museum value your support

CFHS Family & Local History Fair

This event will take place on Saturday 22 October 2016 at the Girton Glebe Primary School, Girton, Cambridge, CB3 0PN from 10am to 4pm. Participants who have booked to date are given below. There will be about 50 tables manned by family and local history societies offering advice, help and information on their specialist areas of knowledge. Traders with genealogical supplies will also be there to supply your needs. During the day there will be four talks given by well-known speakers so book early when you arrive. We look forward to seeing you.

Contributors include:

Bedfordshire FHS

Caldecote LHS

Cambridgeshire Association for Local History

Doncaster FHS

East Surrey FHS

Family & Community History Research Society

Fenland FHS

Guild of One Name Studies

Histon LHS

Huntingdonshire FHS

Peterborough FHS

Romany & Travellers FHS
Suffolk FHS
Ann Southgate – Postcards
Annie James – Historical Talks
Beautiful Memories with Audrie Rees & Nina Greco
CAB Search
Family Tree Magazine
Gill Blanchard
Great Northern Railway Society
Hilary Duncan Home Cooked Foods
M. M. Publications
Robert Parker

Fenland History on Friday

Fenland History on Friday is not a club or society, just meetings where people with an interest in the fens share their knowledge with a visiting speaker - sometimes a Professor, more likely a local. The new sessions will start at Ely Methodist Church - entrance via St Mary's Street car park - on October 14 2016. Door open at 10am for coffee, meetings run from 10.30 to noon, £3 on the door.

The first topic will be the new discoveries about the mysterious Manea Community of the 1830s. Just what did happen in those isolated fields near Welney, were centrally-heated houses really built and what happened to the founder after his dream of Utopia was shattered. Cambridge University archaeologists and local historian Mike Petty will reveal all - or at least a little more.

**Next week something totally different. and we will continually weekly till December. All are welcome!
Check out the Facebook site 'Fenland History on Friday on Facebook' for news, hints, information and help**

Ouse Washes Conference

The Hearts of the Fen: Folk of the Ouse Washes
The People who Shape the Ouse Washes Landscape
Conference of the Ouse Washes Landscape Partnership
Wednesday 9th November 2016, 9 am – 4 pm
The Maltings, Ship Lane, Ely, Cambridgeshire CB7 4BB

Overview of the Conference

This conference - the third in a series of three taking place annually - will explore the heritage of the Ouse Washes Landscape Partnership area and is supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund. The conference will introduce you to some of the characters and stories that have played a part in shaping the Ouse Washes Landscape and are continuing to shape local

heritage for future generations. The Partnership aims to increase awareness of the significant stories of the area.

Bringing together local people and partner organisations with a range of heritage interests will promote the unique historical events which have shaped the landscape and its communities and which continue to do so.

Download the programme here: [owlp-conference-2016-nov-9_programme_final](#)

There is also (limited) space for exhibition stalls to showcase the work of local heritage groups. Please do contact

mark.nokkert@cambsacre.org.uk

if you would like to apply for exhibition space.

Anyone interested is welcome to attend the Conference. although free, you do need to book in advance;

to book a place, please visit the EventBrite page here.

Kimbolton Local History Society's Archives Group

Kimbolton Local History Society's Archives Group has for many years been working on a project to transcribe and index some of Huntingdonshire Archives' vast quantity of documents relating to Kimbolton and the Duke of Manchester's estates.

To date, work has been largely concerned with the extensive collection of Kimbolton Poor Law Papers and the Correspondence Books of the agents to the 6th and 7th Dukes of Manchester. The Kimbolton Settlement Examinations and Certificates and the Apprenticeship Indentures have been fully transcribed and indexed for personal names, place names and occupations. The Settlement Examinations, which date from 1763-1833, are particularly informative, providing what is in effect a life history of the examinee and including well over two hundred personal names and over a hundred place names.

Work so far completed on the Correspondence Books covers those from 1852-1868 and 1886, which have been summarised and indexed for surnames, place names and subjects. The range of topics is enormous and includes the construction of the Kettering-Thrapston-Huntingdon Railway, the St. Ives market and bridge, new developments in agriculture, the installation of gas at Kimbolton Castle, the formation of the Duke of Manchester's Light Horse Cavalry and the sale of the contents of Brampton Park.

In addition, the Society has produced a series of nineteen Kimbolton Local History Journals, all of which remain in print, with Journal No.20 currently in preparation. Topics include the World War 2 Airfield at Kimbolton; the Tiffany window in Kimbolton Church; Kimbolton in the

Turnpike Era; various articles on Kimbolton Castle, including the Pellegrini murals, William Burn's Victorian alterations and the recollections of a housemaid and an assistant butler; and Kimbolton race course and other sports clubs. A full list of contents is available on the Society's website at www.e-voice.org.uk/klhs.

Copies of all publications are deposited at Huntingdonshire Archives or are available for purchase from the Chairman, Nora Butler, (nora.butler@btinternet.com).

Cambridge Living History Fair

The dates for the next *Cambridge Living History Fair* are on Saturday, October 15th and Sunday, October 16th, 2016. It will be held at the *Wood Green Animal Centre, London Road, Godmanchester PE29 2NH*. Hours: Saturday, 10am until 5pm Sunday, 10am until 4pm. Admission £2, no charge for children under 16 when accompanied by an adult.

Historia Originata was created as a trade show aimed at re-enactors and history/museum professionals in England, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Following on from the first three shows in Carlisle, the fair moved to the Rheged Centre for the fourth and fifth shows. Now, moved to the Wood Green Centre as the Cambridge Living History Fair, the change of venues has proven very successful with a large list of traders for the October market with many traders already re-booked for the February 2016 market. *Follow the Cambridge Living History Fair on Facebook*

Meldreth Local History Group

Next year, Meldreth Local History Group will be ten years old. It is an anniversary of which we are justifiably proud. We are a small community group and we have achieved a lot in the last decade.

We have organised several exhibitions on different aspects of the village's history, hosted visiting speakers, held biannual coffee mornings at the Sheltered Housing Community Room, held open days at Topcliffe Mill in conjunction with National Mills Weekend and run a Heritage Lottery funded archaeological test pit project. We have also participated in various village events, including the Church Fete, Christmas Tree Festival, Friends of Holy Trinity events and the centenary celebrations at Meldreth Primary School.

Over the years we have researched various aspects of the village's history and continue to make the results of this research freely available on our website. We have photographed the Primary School log books and admissions registers, we have photographed and transcribed the Meldreth Award Book and the 1910 Land Valuation Survey. We have also conducted and recorded over 40 interviews with villagers. We have transcribed the burial records and scanned albums created by the WI and the Guides. We have undertaken research at Royston Museum,

Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire Archives, the Cambridgeshire Collection and the London Metropolitan Archives.

Perhaps our most lasting legacy will be our three-pronged web presence. Firstly, we have been a part of the Cambridgeshire Community Archive Network (CCAN) since 2007. Secondly, in March 2011 we launched our own website, www.meldrethhistory.org.uk which now has over 580 pages on Meldreth past and present and includes text, images, audio and video. The site includes records and transcriptions of records and documents not available elsewhere. And finally, earlier this year we added a Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/meldrethhistory>. After a slow start, we now have 119 “likes” on our page, with more being acquired each week. This has allowed us to reach out to a different group of people and has resulted in an increase in website visitors.

We have been fortunate to have been awarded a number of grants over the last decade. However, for the most part we fund our work through fundraising events and sales of merchandise.

For our next fundraising event, we are delighted to be welcoming Mathew Morris BA MA ACIfA to give a talk entitled, “Richard III: The King Under the Car Park” in Meldreth Village Hall, High Street, Meldreth SG8 6LX on Friday 2nd December 2016 at 7.30pm.

In 2012, Mathew supervised the successful archaeological search for the lost grave of King Richard III. He has co-authored two popular books on Leicestershire archaeology, *Visions of Ancient Leicester* (2011) and *Richard III: The King under the Car Park* (2013) and in his spare time he helps run the Leicestershire branch of the Young Archaeologists’ Club.

Richard III: The King Under the Car Park

The discovery of King Richard III’s remains during an archaeological excavation in 2012 was a world-wide sensation; a 500-year-old missing persons case brought to life through modern archaeological and forensic investigation. In *Richard III: The King Under the Car Park*, Mathew Morris, one of the lead archaeologists on the Grey Friars Project, will reveal how this amazing discovery was made; examining the background to the project, showing how archaeologists knew where to look and what was found during the excavation, and taking a close look at how forensic scientists were able to successfully identify 500-year-old skeletal remains as Richard III, the last Plantagenet king of England (d.1485).

Tickets for Mathew’s talk cost just £5 (children under 12 free) and are available from Joan Gane on (01763) 260129, John Crawforth on (01763) 262848 or by emailing the Group on info@meldrethhistory.org.uk.

Kathryn Betts
Secretary