



FORDHAM HISTORY SOCIETY BULLETIN



THE LATEST EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



Inside the December Issue:

INTRODUCTION - 1

FLHS A.G.M. -2

FLHS ACCOUNTS- 3

THE SHOULDER OF
MUTTON INVITATION - 3

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
POPPY APPEAL - 3



INTRODUCTION

by WENDY SHEPHERD

On behalf of Michael and myself may I wish you all a very Merry Christmas. As her Majesty once said about a previous difficult year; this has truly been an 'Annus Horribilis.' For many of us we have never experienced such difficulties and it has been a year which has challenged us emotionally, medically and mentally. As we approach 2021, we can only hope that we will soon see a vaccination and the lifting of restrictions which will once again allow us to meet and greet our families and friends and get back to our 'normal' lives whatever that may be.

We have a few members who are dealing with health issues at present. We are thinking of them and send you our good wishes, positive thoughts and strength at a difficult time.

FORDHAM HISTORY SOCIETY AGM 2019/2020

Our society is governed by a set of 'rules/guidelines' which were put together when we applied for our Lottery Grant for our WW1 Centenary Project. There is nothing written to say that we cannot present our AGM to members online or through a bulletin. Due to the unprecedented circumstances, I am presenting this AGM and accounts online.

I believe it is important that we keep our society going during this difficult time and therefore continuity is important. Therefore I am quite happy to continue as programme organiser and treasurer. Michael Hamilton-Macy would like to continue his role as CAG liaison and I have confirmed with Christine Alexander that she will continue as second signatory. If by chance you have any objections to these positions; please contact me and we can duly discuss it when we meet up again.

2020 meetings

To think our last history society meeting was in February when Peter Jones talked about the great Essex earthquake. I had read little bits about how Peldon had been affected when I was doing some family history for a customer, but was unaware of the full scale of the earthquake until the talk; an interesting meeting.

'Now you see it, now you don't' presented by Michael Hamilton-Macy in January was indeed a fascinating account of disappearing buildings, roads, milestones and wells in Fordham. Michael has not been idle during lockdown and he has continued to examine the history of our village with further fieldwalking and investigation. He has produced an article about Thrift Farm for CAG (Colchester Archaeological Group,) I will give you the link for next month. But Michael will, at some time in the future, do a History Society talk on his latest fieldwalking investigations.

Congratulations to Michael who is the new chairman of CAG. A position which he assumed after offering to be Vice Chairman. He failed to read the small print which says that the Vice Chair takes on the mantle of Chairman after being the deputy!

2021 Programme

It is very difficult to plan a future programme when we are unsure that the village hall will be re-opening in January 2021. I will let you know in the January issue.

So as programme organiser I have discussed with some of our members the proposal of focussing entirely on the history of Fordham in the first half of the year. These 'meetings' will be presented at the hall either by myself or Michael Hamilton-Macy and can easily be cancelled if necessary.

As the months go by I can assess the situation and then check on outside speakers to cover the rest of the year. It would be good to try and book Neil Catchpole and Katie Cole who were cancelled last year.

January - Fordham; new discoveries
February - Fordham's Land Army
March - Thrift Farm
May - Unusual Church records
June - Notables of Fordham
July - Fordham Dig update

Accounts for 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020

<u>Income</u>			<u>Expenditure</u>		
	£	£		£	£
<u>Society Meetings</u>			<u>Society Meetings</u>		
Meetings income	268.00		Village Hall Hire	231.00	
Book sales	5.00		Subscriptions - Woodland Trust	33.00	
Postcards	5.00		Speaker costs	50.00 cash	
Grant Fordham Parish Council for V.E. Day	100.00		British Legion crosses	30.00	
Donations	30.00		History Club - purchases	55.26	
Events	33.00		G. Hewes - checker	20.00	
		441.00	Donation - British Legion	20.00	
			Postage/stationary	9.90	
			Website fees	11.99	
				461.15	
<u>Archaeological Dig</u>			<u>Archaeological Dig</u>		
Grant Fordham Parish Council for Dig	500.00		Donation Aylsham Project	200.00	
Fordham Car Show donation for dig	500.00				
		1,441.00			661.15
<u>Opening balance at 1 April 2019</u>			<u>Closing balance at 31 March 2020</u>		
Barclays Bank		2,677.58	Barclays Bank		3,457.43
		£4,118.58	(Allocated funds £1615.62 Archaeological Dig)		
These accounts have been seen and approved					
Signed			Dated		
Graham B. Hewes, F.M.A.A.T.					

The finances are very healthy. We have the grant of £100 from Fordham Parish Council to hopefully use next year in a belated V.E. Day tea party. They also gave us £30 to put towards a hamper for the main raffle prize. Of our £3457.43 balance, we have also agreed the allocation of £1615.62 to the archaeological dig, some of this is a balance from last year's archaeology grants. The process has begun to look for more funding for the dig as we will need to publish our findings in a report and get pottery and coins analysed. We are hoping CAG will support us in some of these costs, but we need to look elsewhere for more funding.



Fordham and Wormingford Poppy Appeal

Many thanks to everyone who donated towards this year's poppy appeal. Particular thanks go to outlets who hosted poppy boxes and our villagers who gave donations:

Shoulder of Mutton
The Bungalow Stores
The Cricketers
All Saints School
All Saints Church
The Crown
Colletts Farm
St Andrew's Church

The Shoulder of Mutton

When I took the Poppy Box down to the Shoulder of Mutton, I was fortunate to meet the owner Jon Neil. We spoke about the History Society visiting the Shoulder of Mutton at some time in the future. I was thinking that perhaps it would be rather pleasant to go down for an afternoon tea and then Jon said he would show those who are interested around the building. The Shoulder of Mutton is our second oldest building in Fordham after all!!



EDF19 Fordham and Wormingford raised a commendable £524.28.