



HORLEY LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

MAY 2014

NEWSLETTER

**REGULAR ATTENDANCE AT HORLEY LIBRARY, HISTORY CENTRE ON MOST
TUESDAY AFTERNOONS 3.00pm ~ 5.00pm
SATURDAY MORNINGS 11.00am ~ 1.00pm**

**FORTHCOMING MEETINGS - Doors Open 7.30pm for 8.00pm at Strawson Hall,
Albert Road**

Thursday 22nd May 2014 - A member of the East Grinstead Museum Society will relate some of the history about the surgical display that used to be in Queen Victoria Hospital.

Thursday 26th June 2014 - Leslie Burnett from Nutfield Local History Society on the History of Nutfield which may include parts of the A25 trunk road and the Railway

Thursday 24th July 2014 - Evening Visit to East Grinstead Museum, Cantelupe Rd (off High St near Barclays Bank) & Guided Tour. Meet outside at 6.45 in time for 7.00pm prompt start

RECENT MEETING Reports

Thursday 27th February 2014 Annual General Meeting

The chairman gave a brief report of HLHS activities during the course of the year which was followed by the adoption of the accounts and election of officers. Long serving David Morgan has retired for health and family reasons (thanks for all your hard work David!) and Doug Cox, a new member, volunteered and was duly elected to take on the Treasurers job. Additionally, your Newsletter Editor John Chisholm was elected to the committee, otherwise all the other existing officers remain for another year. A discussion followed about the future of the HLHS and several suggestions were made for consideration by the new committee. The Chairman then gave a brief talk on the connections of Horley with the town of Chertsey

Thursday 27th March 2014 - Peter Cox - Flooding in and around Horley

An interesting selection of pictures were shown depicting the flood scene in and around Horley over the last 100 years. There were many images taken by Peter himself during the recent winter pinpointing just how very bad it has been in the Haroldslea area, also some contributed by other HLHS members. Thank you all.

Thursday 24th April 2014 - Roger Packham - Surrey Cricket & Horley

An enthusiastic speaker gave an interesting talk on the history of local cricket stretching back to the earliest days supported by pictures, many of which emanating from postcards

Horley History thrown away by Hall & Woodhouse, Brewers

Despite several (unanswered) letters to the brewers by long serving member Brian Buss, the name of 'The Gatwick PH' has been thrown into the re-cycle bin with the name and hanging sign being removed on 28th February. After a major refurbishment, and change of licensee, the pub re-opened on 17th March with a new name 'Airfield Tavern'. A more in-appropriate name would be hard to imagine as you will all know the location in the High St is nowhere near an airfield. One of the contractors mentioned to the writer that the old 'horseshoe sign' was to be re-located to the pub garden but as yet there is no evidence of this. There are more details and a comprehensive review of this long established pub on the HLHS website.

Shops & Commercial premises

The Carlton Clinic moved from its premises in the Balcombe Rd in late February and has re-located to the upper floor of 76 Victoria Rd over the Sue Jane Beauty Clinic. Less good news is the closure at the end of January of Flickers & Liquors in the Church Rd at what was once known as Coutts Corner (junction with Victoria Rd) and in the High St another rather sudden closure on 29th March was 'The Party Pad'. The Taxi Office almost opposite the Police Stn in Massetts Rd has been refurbished following the merger of DSM/A2B taxis with Carline taxis. A new fascia panel has been installed with the "Carline-DSM" insignia.

Still in Massetts Rd the nearby Sentinel House office block lost a major part of the roof in the winter gales and is currently being protected by a massive scaffold roof covered by white plastic sheeting pending repair works. Mentioned in the November NL was the temporary closure to callers to Ruffles stationers in the Victoria Rd. At long last repair works appear to be in hand. Almost opposite was the Mali Thai Restaurant but after only about a year it appears to have changed hands (again!) and is now 'White Lotus' Thai Restaurant.

Smallfield Rd now sees new Rags Hair Studio at No 4, previously a cycle shop which closed down last Autumn.

The Chequers Hotel seems very unlikely to re-open although sources confirm that part of the original building is listed which may hamper any re-development plans. Rumours are that it has been sold, also that it is open to offers so nothing to report. Part of the land including presumably part of the car-park and old derelict buildings facing onto Horley Row were sold on 25th March for an unconfirmed reported price of £380,000.

Russell Sq

This development continues apace and I understand that the formwork has now been completed and fitting-out has commenced. It is hard to see what is happening as the scaffold has been covered, in the main, by protective white plastic sheeting. Good for the workforce but not for the on-looker to see what is going on.

Books & Publications

As we go to press no news yet of Doug Cox's **Men of Horley - 1914-1918 Lest we Forget** but it is hoped to be available by late May. Further information will be on the website when book is available or check at Library on Tue/Sats when we have a presence (times on front page of NL)

Did you know that we still have lots of books available for purchase at the bargain price of just £5 each :-

Public Houses in Horley, Maps & Houses, Street where you Live, Horley 50 years ago, Gt Grandfather's Horley Books 3 and 4. There are also copies of The Chequers at £3 and 1000 years of Horley at £3.50. Full details are on the website or please enquire at the Library as above.

Membership & Subscriptions

Since the AGM the new treasurer has been working hard updating records and a letter

has been included with this NL asking for a membership Subscription to be paid, as soon as possible, please. Unfortunately due to circumstances few subscriptions were collected last year so in effect many of the readers will have had a 'free year'. However, we cannot afford to subsidise you any longer as costs continue to rise and even though we have money in the bank we must take care of our reserves. You are requested to complete the form at the foot of the letter and return same to the Treasurer who will be delighted to receive it, especially your cheque for £7 or £10 depending if you are a single or joint member! Please remember also to tell us your email address too, if you have one, as this will help us to save money on postages and to send the Newsletter to you faster and in an environmentally friendly way.

One day we may need to spend a serious amount for some form of accomodation for our volumes of records which are currently held for safe keeping by various members. This is fine in the short term but your committee have been searching for a long time to find somewhere more suitable. Do YOU have any suggestions or ideas of any rooms or spare offices which we could use for little or no cost ? The committee have been looking at one possible solution which could be very expensive but no decision has been made as yet.

WEBSITE www.horleyhistory.org.uk webmaster Peter Cox

Want to know what is happening in Horley or need some information - why not try looking on our site?

Since the last Newsletter we have had enquiries about Horley Gallery (39 Victoria Rd), Ebenezer Church Smallfield, Sangers Circus elephants, Horley cinemas and from the Amherst Care Home

The Horley Town Council Guide 2014 was delivered to addresses in Horley during February / March

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FINALLY

If you have any news or snippets of information for the Newsletter, please send them to me, details below. Closing date for next edition is 15th July and publication date will be 1st August. Ed

CONTACTS FOR HORLEY LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

website

www.horleyhistory.org.uk

Chairman Alan Reid 01342-844789

Vice-Chairman Peter Blakey 01293 786256,

Treasurer Doug Cox 01293-410366

HLHS Archives David Morgan 01293-776121,

Newsletter Editor John Chisholm 01293-786419 **email** johnchis.holm27@uwclub.net

Committee Betty Woodburn 01293-784668

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