

BASINGSTOKE ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BAHS

Newsletter 205
November 2013

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What has Nicola found now?



PHOTO PAGE

Our Display at the Discovery Centre (page 7) and an item from it



“We were squatters on **Oakridge Camp** after the Americans left. We used to have to walk across the fields to get into town to buy anything. You couldn't buy curtains in those days so we bought a big piece of plastic and split it up to divide the hut into two bedrooms and the living part.”



Barbara meets a Roman on the Via Flaminia (page 13)

Renewal of Annual Memberships for September 2013 to August 2014

Barry Hedger
Membership Secretary
membership@bahsoc.org.uk
23 Osprey Rd, Basingstoke RG22 5PR

There has been a very good response by members, who renewed their annual memberships in September 2013. Thank you very much.

About a third of the membership has yet to renew. May I encourage those members to send me a cheque, set up a Standing Order or pay at a monthly meeting.

Individual membership £12.00
Family/Joint membership (same household) £18.00
Student in full-time education £10.00
+ Newsletter supplement (to receive a paper copy) £5.00

Details of the new membership subscriptions agreed at the June 2013 AGM were given in the August 2013 Newsletter.

PROGRAMME CHANGE!

*Please note the change of speaker and subject for Thursday
8th May 2014:*

**Alex Godden will talk about his work: THE HAMPSHIRE
HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD - NEW WAYS OF
LOOKING FOR THE PAST**

**Matthew Bennett will give his talk on the Bayeux Tapestry
after the AGM on 12th June**

Christmas Party

7.30 p.m. Thursday 12 December 2013 at Church Cottage

£2.50 per person

(includes finger buffet and first alcoholic, or soft drink)



Our seasonal get-together this year has a Jane Austen theme, so find your reticules, chemisettes, macaronis and spencers (answers to what they were will be provided at the party).

Colin Firth as Mr Darcy can't attend, but there will be an Austen-themed quiz and a raffle run by Mark, wishing he was Mr Darcy.

Offers to help to prepare or supply buffet food will be very welcome. Please ring Penny Martin on **01256 321423**, or email her at enquiries@bahsoc.org.uk to offer help if you are able.

You can collect and pay for your ticket(s) at the door on the night (please let Penny know in advance if you are coming), or at the Meeting.

Cut off with a shilling!

John Marsh, cordwainer (shoemaker) of Basingstoke, made his will in 1737. In his Leather House he had weights, scales and beam as well as leather, 2 frame saws, 2 last knives and a bench.

He left his 'loving daughter' Elizabeth £5 'to be paid to her twelve months after my decease, but if she marrie William Dod then my will is and I do hereby give her but one shilling instead of the legacy above mentioned'. On Sept 30th 1738 William Dod and Elizabeth March were married.

BAHS Weekend Away 2014

We are starting to plan a long weekend in the Fenland area for mid to late June 2014. The intention is to explore a number of places of archaeological and historical interest in and around Norwich, Cambridge, Ely and Peterborough. The organised programme would start on the Friday morning and end on Monday afternoon, but you would be free to leave or join as you like.

The provisional programme is as follows:

Day	Activities
Friday	Norwich area – Norwich Castle Museum, Castle Acre
Saturday	Ely area – Ely Cathedral, Grimes Graves, West Stow Anglo-Saxon Village
Sunday	Cambridge area – Fitzwilliam Museum, Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Visit to one of the colleges
Monday	Flag Fen

As in past years, we would organise the programme but would leave you to make your own accommodation and transport arrangements. We would provide a list of places to stay, but can't make recommendations since this comes down to personal preference. Usually, we are able to organise car-sharing between members.

If you think this sounds interesting and would like to know more, please contact Mark Peryer (mperver@f2s.com or 01256 780502). More details will appear in the February newsletter.

After more consideration, the Committee has decided to postpone the proposed Cyprus trip for now.

VICTORIA COUNTY HISTORY Newsletter

The group working on the revision of the VCH for Basingstoke and surrounding parishes has produced a second 2-page Newsletter showing work in progress. If you would like an email version, contact Barbara Large at b.large@sky.com

FIELD WORK REPORT

Mark Peryer
Tel 01256 780502 (mperyer@f2s.com)

A number of BAHS members helped with Southampton University's dig at Basing House in July and August. It was primarily a training dig for their students, but this meant that there were opportunities to do things other than dig. For instance, Peter Stone helped one of the post-graduate students with a magnetometry survey of the Common. The dig was aimed at re-examining the excavation done by the Aldermaston Society in the early 1960s, with a secondary objective of backfilling the grid they had left and restoring the area to its original surface level. When I visited on the last day of the excavation you could see the outlines of the Iron Age structures and how they tied up with the original plan.

During the summer a number of us were involved in a field walk at Dockenfield, just over the county border in Surrey. The field in question had been ploughed for the first time in years before being reseeded for silage production. Dockenfield is in the Alice Holt forest area and it is thought that there was a Romano-British tile kiln situated in the field. The overall results suggest that there is a large concentration of roof tile in one small area of the field. So much so, that we managed to fill our GPS units with readings.

FOAM (Friends of Ancient Monuments)

Marjoleine Butler
marjoleine_2000hotmail.com

We will be running another FOAM session at Danebury on **Sunday 27 November**. We will be working in 'the dip' again, which is the same place that we worked on last time. Since then the sheep have grazed the area, which will make it easier to see the work we will be doing. We are meeting in the top car park at 10 am and aim to finish around 4 pm. The work will involve clearing scrub and small trees, so please bring bow-saws and loppers if you have them, although there will be some extra on site. Also please bring a packed lunch and drinks, and please ensure you wear suitable footwear, preferably protective boots. Also please note there are no facilities on site.

As always, work is weather-dependent, so if you're not sure if it's going ahead please call me on the day on my mobile: **07879 604479**. If you are intending to join us, please send me either an email or a text message to confirm.

I have also been approached by Basing House to see if we would come back to do some more work on site. I am waiting to hear what needs to be done and what dates they have in mind, and will let the volunteers know once I have more information. If you are not yet on the FOAM volunteer list and would like to be added, please drop me an email.

LOCAL AND FAMILY HISTORY DAY At the Discovery Centre

We had a stand at this Open Day on October 13th near friends in the Heritage Society, the Friends of the Willis Museum, the VCH, TADs etc. Our theme was "the edge of the town" and how that moved as the town grew. So we linked maps of the town in Tudor times, in 1837 and today. Paper strips in three colours led from the appropriate map to photos and "snippets" from records or interviews.

We hope to bring the display to the Christmas party, but there's a foretaste on our Photo Page. As our displays are usually based on Basingstoke Talking History, it was members of the BTH team who put it together.

Here Anita and George Plummer and Margaret Harris are assembling the display.



The Civil War Sieges of Basing House and the Battle of Swing-Swang Lane

a walking tour led by Alan Turton,

6th October 2013

Wendy Spruce



We have probably all driven up Swing-Swang Lane at some time without necessarily thinking of it as a historic site. However when we walked up there with Alan Turton he evoked for us, not a modern housing development, quiet in the October Sunday sun, but an open, grassy hillside above a marshy valley on a dark, misty autumn morning more than 360 years ago.

Basingstoke Archaeological and Historical Society had been invited to join a walk and a tour of Basing House led by Alan for the Battlefields Trust, in the course of which we were being taken back to the seventeenth century and the English Civil War, with a Royalist force under Col. Gage making its way from Oxford through Parliamentary-held territory to relieve besieged Basing House. We made our way down an angled footpath alongside a hedge that still follows the line of the hedge behind which Roundhead musketeers were lying in wait for Col. Gage and his men. He reported, ‘We were saluted from the hedges with a short volley of musket shot, more terrible than damageable.’ In the skirmish that followed the Royalists were eventually successful in getting through to Basing House with their supplies and we took the same route down into the valley.

After lunch, starting in the Visitor Centre and the Great Barn before making our way to a viewpoint on the ramparts, Alan took us through the history of Basing House from its Tudor magnificence, through its Royalist stance in the Civil War and its resistance to Parliamentary attacks, to the final arrival of Oliver Cromwell. With his force of up to 7,000 men he bombarded the House into surrender, sacked and burned it, and to end our day the Civil War Society brought that history to life as they marched to the beat of drums to engage each other with all the flashes and bangs of the battlefield.

Musket Balls in Swing Swang Lane

A Letter from Nicola Turton

On the afternoon, of 1st November, I was walking into town, and as I went along Swing Swang Lane, I happened to look at a patch of bare ground and I saw what looked like a musket ball. Bending down, and certain it would turn out to be a stone or lump of chewing gum, I did indeed pick up a musket ball!

It's been fired and either rammed very hard or hit something, this is shown by two flattened planes. Beaming away, I strode onwards, earning a grin from the chap who had been staring at the sky for ages as I walked towards him. Perhaps he too was happy with a historical discovery!

Alan met me later at the hairdresser's and was delighted, of course, and spent the time telling Jim (our hairdresser) all about the Battle of Swing Swang Lane.

To Saturday, when I walked to the station. Passing the same way, I looked down and there was another musket ball. The same heavy white oxidisation, and a bit of corrosion and damage, either from the battle or from later building works in the area. I really couldn't believe it. I caught up with Alan at the station car park, and left it in the car, as I didn't want to be stopped at the antiquarian book fair. Ammunition is seldom kindly received at bag checks.

Then on Sunday we took a post-lunch walk, and I took my trowel. As we peered into every flower bed and scrap of bare earth, the traffic round that area was surely never busier, and people must have thought we were mad. But then I was able to text to my father, 'what's better than two musket balls?' Yes, three! I don't think that Alan or I could believe it. I scraped away at the vegetation and leaf mould along the whole stretch, but couldn't find any more. But mustn't be greedy. It is quite amazing that they still exist after so long, and in such disturbed ground, but they were exactly where they should have been

What a shame I hadn't found them in time for the walk, but they'll make a nice illustration for the book. [Alan has a forthcoming book on **The Civil War in Wessex** and is also planning a small book about this battle]. And as my father says, it just shows the level of Basingstoke Council's street cleaning over the last few hundred years.

I'll let the Portable Antiquities Scheme and Dave Allen know, as we're not aware of any physical evidence for the battle having been found before.

Taking the Air in Southampton

Main text Mary Oliver

Fiddled with by Nicola Turton

On Saturday 26th October, a select group gathered in Southampton for Julian Porter's guided tour of his and Margaret's new home town. It was a fine mix of fascinating information, interesting venues, well-chosen watering holes and good company.



After breakfast at No 4 Canute Road (a sign on a nearby building informed us that we were close to where 'Canute reproved his courtiers'), we set off in the dry, and within a moment *le deluge*

was upon us. Fortunately, our first stop was a nearby lofty Victorian storage depot to hear both the thunderous rain and about the city's development via Clausentum and Hamwic to the Norman and medieval town, then the rise of trade through the coming of the railway, all well illustrated with maps. Julian had also found some wonderfully evocative photographs, and it's always interesting to wonder if a member of your family is one of those ghostly faces.

More blustery weather, and Julian's notes flying high and wide across the wet road (well done Paulline for recovering those in the path of lorries!), as we headed towards the appropriately named Porter's Mead, where there is a memorial to General Gordon, who used to stay with his sister in the neighbourhood. The inscription round the base reads, 'I am quite well thank God! And, like Laurence, have tried to do my duty.'

Understandably, Southampton has many references to the Titanic tragedy, including some 6 memorials, and the first of these was the memorial just across the road.

Close to the docks is the earliest bowling green in the country, dated 1299 (*howzat* Plymouth Hoe? or is that the wrong sporting allusion...?) We stuck our nosy noses through the open gate and made edifying comments such as "Oh yes, *just* like my lawn!"

Then we stood for a moment in Lower Canal Walk to learn about the double town ditch beside the town wall which had a later life as a canal – one of many in Southampton before the railways came.

After admiring God's House Tower and grumbling about the sign that said it was open when it clearly wasn't, and rapping smartly and in vain on the door, we turned our gaze to the evidence of earlier buildings and structures, more of which survive than any of us realised. One of them had been moved in the seventeenth century from outside St Michael's Church to a new position beside the west gate and is now a smart wedding venue.

There was one in progress so we couldn't go in, but seeing a wedding is supposed to be lucky, and our next building round the corner, the Medieval Merchant's House, run by English Heritage and closed for the season, happened to have its front door open! The custodian kindly gave us a few minutes to look around, and it is well worth a more leisured visit. Being without electricity, it is understandable why it's closed on a dim winter day, but that does add lots of atmosphere.

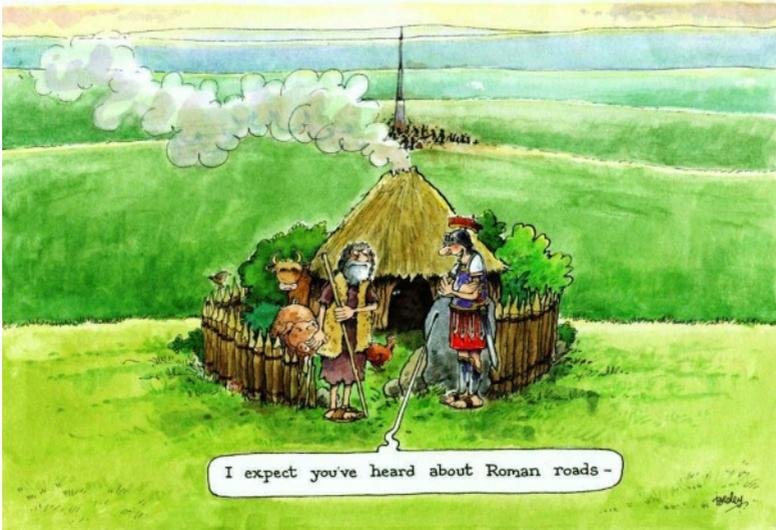
Sadly St Michael's Church (the oldest building in use in Southampton) was closed, though we were able to peep through the glass doors. But if you go and it is open, its treasures include two charming fourteenth/fifteenth century lecterns which are amongst the oldest in the country, and a rare Tournai marble font (1170).

We then walked part of the walls, coming back down the High Street via the Bargate (the wall on either side knocked down to make way for trams) and past the Red Lion. This looked distinctly unpromising, with its pastiche of a timbered front, but inside there is a stunning mediaeval hall. We squeezed past the football fans with their eyes glued to a huge screen, to see the room where Henry V tried the noblemen who had plotted against him, a scene memorably portrayed in Shakespeare's *Henry V*. Under a lot of dark brown paint is a nice seventeenth century gallery, and there are wooden beams in the ladies' loo and a stunned looking grey parrot by the bar.

We saw much more than we've told you about (such as Jane Austen's 18th birthday party, or the display of fossilised fairies...) but hope this has given you a taste of a splendid day. We ended the tour at the Porter's new home relaxing with a drink and the chance to study all Julian's visual aids, thinking of our enjoyable day and all the new things we now know about Southampton.

Thank you, Julian and Margaret!

‘The Impact of Rome on the British Countryside’
The Royal Archaeological Institute Conference 2013, Chester
Debz Charlton



With kind permission of Rupert Besley ©Royal Archaeological Institution

‘Debz attending a conference and writing about the **Romans!?!**’ ... is probably a shock to those who know me. On starting this short ‘natter’ about the conference I had a momentary pause for thought that 2014 will be a decade from the first time that Barbara Applin showed me a couple of excavated Roman coins and mentioned the word ‘Wheatsheaf’, the rescue excavation that she led as the M3 was being built. [See the DVD **Beneath Basingstoke**.] I didn’t realise it at the time but Barbara was introducing me to the subject base for my future academic journey. I have diverged onto many archaeological ‘tracks’ but it is true to say that just as ‘all roads ultimately lead to Rome’, all my learning tracks ‘ultimately lead back to the Romano-British ‘Wheatsheaf’.

So much is written already about the Roman period or Romano-British period, but often it is a recording, repeat or update of the same lines of investigation. After 10 years of post-excavation work for the rescue dig I will admit that I am looking for stimulus to take my research beyond the obvious and was on a quest to try and discover what the most up-to-date research direction is . The theme title was encouraging and the conference

started well with words such as ‘re-assessing’ and ‘re-evaluation’ by Professor Nico Roymans (*Transformation of rural society in the Roman Rhineland*).

I was then sitting alert and to attention when my favourite speaker, Professor Dominic Powlesland (*Vale of Pickering between the Pre- and Post- Roman Iron Age*) started his presentation, saying that we should consider the rural population succumbing to all things Roman as nothing more than the ‘Iron Age being given an Ikea store Iron Age with shopping’. From ‘Romanisation?’ the direction then turned to the contribution Dot distribution maps make to understanding value. We mostly consider them as a final analysis of findings, but were now asked to look at them as just the first step of investigation as they only represent what we know so far and are not the reality of a ‘landscape textured by the past’.

Following on in the same mindset, Dominic Powlesland introduced an ‘Underground’ recognisable phrase ‘Mind the Gap’. The gap in question being between known settlement areas within landscapes; they are often given little thought and it was suggested that perhaps when ‘reading the book’, the ‘grammar’ is wrong and a gap is not just a gap, there is potentially a reason for it.

The conference was very informative and constructive and much to my delight only one speaker went down the whole ‘developer and planning archaeology’ route I doodled on my pad till it was done (apologies to the speaker). On summing up, I see a change in thinking (hooray at last) as comparison of Roman evidence far and wide seems to have shifted to..... or is that back to? ‘looking at the local’ and a stronger ‘focus down, on local scale’ (*Martin Millet*). What, Where, When is the known. WHY – seems to be the ‘now’ question.

WITH ANDANTE IN UMBRIA ...

Barbara and Bob Applin

*We thoroughly recommend this tour of hill towns of Umbria - Assisi, Spello, Spoleto and others, and the archaeological sites of Ocriculum and Carsulae, with stretches of the Appian Way, as well as various Roman houses **under** later ones. Marvellous frescoes too.*

... AND GERMANY

Mary Oliver also enjoyed her trip to Roman Germany, where her tour guide was Tony Willmott who will be giving our January talk.

www.andantetravels.co.uk



THE THREE TUNS - the Pub that Moved

Recently John Hollands at the Willis Museum passed on an enquiry from Australia about this pub. The enquirer said his family had a tale that it had been 'given' to a young lady by Charles II after he got her pregnant and she married a manservant. However, the earliest record we could find (no mention of royalty or pregnancy) was the information in a 1784 directory that the Salisbury coach stopped there every night at about 10 o'clock en route for London and about 11 am en route for Salisbury. The landlord was Thomas Padwick, followed in 1791 by Thomas Parrack, in 1823 by Charles Cranston, in 1828 by Jane Cranston (had Charles died?) and from 1867 to 1859 by David Billimore, the 3 x great-grandfather of the enquirer.

The drawing shows the pub in the period 1875-1880 when the landlord was Richard Holder. The building on the right is the Victoria Hotel (now Lamb Brooks solicitors), with the old Victoria Street, formerly called Allen's Lane, between the two buildings. It was probably not long before Victoria Street was re-aligned and widened and the pub demolished. This change to the street has caused some confusion.

The photograph shows a later Three Tuns, now Northwoods, farther along Winchester St - some people may remember the opticians Clement Clarke having their shop there.



Hampshire Field Club Buildings Section

Salisbury Study Day

David Whiter

The Development of Salisbury

Hampshire journeyed to Wiltshire with John Hare and Edward Roberts to examine Salisbury, a city that has suffered none of the various devastations - conflagration (the curse of mediaeval towns), the Blitz, nor enthusiastic redevelopers after its fifteenth century heyday - and thus preserves an exceptional collection of medieval buildings,

The inconveniences of Old Sarum, a hilltop site with a castle, moved the Bishop of Salisbury to relocate the settlement down to the small village already at the confluence of five rivers, with routes linking Wiltshire to Southampton, a premier port.

The new town was established in 1219 on the Diocese's own land in Salisbury, and Bishop Poore started development of a new cathedral, obtaining the grant for a two day fair in 1221 and a royal charter in 1227. Bishop Bingham continued the furious pace with the construction of Harnham Bridge in 1245 and new town streets opening up routes to the south and west. Religious life flourished with the arrival of Franciscan friars in 1229, the cathedral's completion (1258), a hospice and the creation of de Vaux & St Edmund's Colleges (1262,1269) to provide priests to minister to the parishes, and Dominicans in 1280. Growth was relentless, with a second fair in the late thirteenth century, so that by 1334 its tax assessment was the twelfth biggest in the country, and by 1337 its population the sixth biggest.

Wiltshire was the second biggest wool producing county, and Salisbury's cloth trade burgeoned until in 1421 it employed fully one third of the town's adult males, with many more in related trades. It was also the centre of government and ecclesiastical administration, and it became one of the kingdom's ten greatest towns.

At the move from Old Sarum, St Martin's in the southeast was the manor of the Bishop. The new cathedral zone occupied the southwest, with development in

the north and west served by the new town streets. In the late thirteenth century, development in the north east followed, completing the mediaeval city.

Though the Bishop had supplied the impetus for growth, the merchants and city fathers had also flourished as Salisbury traded with Europe via Southampton. John Halle, a merchant trading wine, fish, cloth and luxuries from Spain to the Low Countries, became the town's third largest property owner by 1455. This peak of wealth in the fifteenth century sparked major rebuilding of all the parish churches.

The Parish Churches

St Martin's, the first parish church, retains its thirteenth century flint chancel, but the nave and aisles were greatly enlarged in the fifteenth century. The west end is curiously out of square with the nave, suggesting some lost building or feature constraining its enlargement.

St Thomas' followed in 1238, just north of the cathedral. It too was extensively remodelled in the mid-fifteenth century, with an ambitious roof and a plethora of stained glass funded principally by citizens. A merchant's bequest in 1450 provided the wonderful doom painting.

St Edmund's, begun in 1270, remains an imposing structure. The generous scale of the chancel and side aisles and their heavy roofs testify to the grandeur of its fifteenth century remodelling but it is only a fragment of the original church. When the tower collapsed in the seventeenth century the nave was abandoned and a new tower built to close the west end of the chancel..

The expense of the remodelling of all three churches testifies to the wealth of the city in the fifteenth century, but the abandonment of St Edmund's nave illustrates the effects, first, of the decline in the cloth trade in the sixteenth century and then of the Civil War in the seventeenth century.

Domestic and Commercial Buildings

Salisbury remains one of the finest collections of mediaeval buildings. Among the surviving buildings, development accelerates in the fourteenth century (twenty one), peaks in the fifteenth and sixteenth (forty nine and forty seven respectively) and declines in the seventeenth (twenty five). Church House is in stone with a courtyard, but there are many large timber buildings with double

and triple gables, and two and even three levels of jettying. The building housing Caffè Nero, triple gabled and double jettied, dates from about 1470. Hugh Nugg's building, and the Red Lion and the Pheasant Inn are fine survivors. Some have traces of blocked windows as neighbours' development eclipsed the light of earlier buildings. The house of John Halle the merchant survives with its stone walls, marvellous street frontage and spectacularly rich roof - as part of the Odeon Cinema.

John & Edward gave us an insight into the power of development and trade to stimulate and enrich, and of Salisbury's dramatic rise. We need little reminder currently of the effects of recession, but Salisbury's buildings still afford us a powerful insight into the aims and ambitions of mediaeval people and society.

Winchester Excavations Committee presents

**WINCHESTER EXCAVATIONS & ITS
HERITAGE**

Tuesday 26th November, 6 pm at Winchester Guildhall

***£7.50, tickets available from Winchester Tourist Office, The Broadway,
Winchester 01962 840 500 Early booking advised***

Charlemagne, Jerusalem and Old Minster

Martin Biddle

Did Bishoop Aethelwold model St Swithun's Martyrium built around the tomb of the Saint in Winchester on Charlemagne's palace chapel in Aachen?

Rescue to Research - 40 years of Winchester Archaeology

Dick Selwood

The history of non-commercial archaeology since the work of WEC, focusing on recent work at St Elizabeth's College and St Cross where WARG this year uncovered the first buildings of Henry of Blois.

The University of Winchester and the Excavations of the Hospital of St Mary Magdalen, Winchester

Dr Simon Roffey

The excavations at the pioneering medieval hospital of St Mary Magalen, which revealed a level of leprosy in 85% of the skeletons, higher than previously recorded in Britain.

BOOKSHELF



St Michael's Church, Basingstoke: a walk-round guide

Text: Mary Oliver;
Photography: ActiveShot
(2013)
£2.50

REVIEW by *Michael Whitty*

Arguably, the most historically and architecturally important building in Basingstoke is St Michael's Church in the town centre. Though it is confronted by the Stalinist architecture of the shopping centre wall, it occupies its own space and behind it is the attractive and equally historic (almost!) Church Cottage (and Mary Oliver has also written about this building).

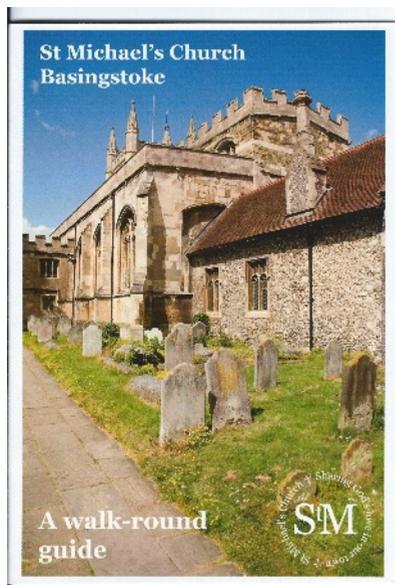
And now there is a new and very user friendly short guide book: *St Michael's Church, Basingstoke: a walk-round guide*, by Mary Oliver, the explicit aim of which is to increase the visitor's enjoyment and understanding of this remarkable building. The booklet metaphorically leads the visitor by the hand and points out the significant and interesting features of the church's architecture and decoration. Numbers used in the text helpfully link with the plan of the church on the inside cover to facilitate navigation around the building.

It is full of fascinating details. For instance, I had never before noticed the musket shot holes on the exterior south wall of the nave – caused during the Civil War between Royalists and Parliamentarians in the seventeenth century. The bulk of the booklet describes the features inside the church and one of the qualities of this publication is that it is strong on dates, names and historical associations. An example of this is Mary Oliver's description of the Book of Remembrance in the Memorial Chapel. She explains how this was compiled by Mrs Kathleen Bousted, wife of the then vicar, and includes 'the pre-war biography of each one, his service career, a photograph where possible and details of his death.' She then describes the stained glass window above the Book. This is dedicated to two sons of the Simmons family, Frank and Paul: 'These show the Crusader knight Godfrey of Bouillon (Frank was killed in Palestine) and St Aldhelm, the first Bishop of Selborne (both boys were at school in Selborne).' Without this information,

I wonder how many visitors would recognise the poignant allusions in the images of the window.

Another example of the author's keen eye for detail is her description of the royal arms of King William III on the south wall of the nave: 'Although William's mother was a Stuart his father was Prince of Orange, and to be correct his arms should include the shield of Nassau in the centre. At that time it was compulsory to display the royal arms in churches; it may be that Basingstoke's thrifty churchwardens merely altered the name on the arms of King Charles and not the heraldry!'

This publication helps the reader – even one who has visited the church many times – to see the building with fresh eyes. On previous visits, I'd merely glanced at the assorted jumble of coloured glass in the window of St Stephen's chapel. Now, booklet in hand, I know that these are high quality fragments of sixteenth century Flemish glass which 'originally adorned the chantry chapel of the Holy Trinity built by Lord Sandys for his own burial The glass was inserted into the east window of the north aisle in Victorian times. After the war, fragments were collected and remounted in this window.' So, a short story linking the Tudor, Victorian and post-war periods.



The booklet packs a great deal of information like this, presented in a very readable and accessible style (avoiding specialist architectural terminology) and well illustrated with colour photographs, which enables the visitor to appreciate both the exterior and interior of St Michael's church.

A time line of key events gives a clear historical outline of the development of this beautiful church and the booklet ends with a list of the services of worship at St Michael's. It will prove to be an essential companion for any visitor to the church.

*The other book Michael mentions is, of course, Mary Oliver's **Church Cottage: a history**, available at our meetings.*

2013-14 DIARY DATES

BASINGSTOKE ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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www.bahsoc.org.uk
Registered Charity No. 11000263

MEETINGS on Thursdays at 7.30 pm Church Cottage, Basingstoke
2013

Sat 17 Nov FOAM at Danebury *see page 6*

12 Dec Christmas Party *see page 4*

2014

9 Jan The 'End' of Hadrian's Wall Tony Wilmott

13 Feb Dating the End of Furnished Pagan Anglo-Saxon burials'
Alex Bayliss *see Current Archaeology, December 2013*

13 Mar Britain Begins Sir Barry Cunliffe

10 April A place of refuge? Basingstoke Union Workhouse
Barbara Large

8 May The Hampshire Historic Environment Record - New Ways
of Looking for the Past Alex Godden

12 June AGM and New light on the Bayeux Tapestry Matthew
Bennett

Mid to Late June BAHS WEEKEND AWAY *see page 5*

FRIENDS OF WILLIS MUSEUM *Thursdays at 7.30 pm Willis Museum*

21 Nov A Window on Eighteenth Century Country Houses Sarah Farley

19 Dec Christmas quizzes and plate party for members

FRIENDS OF BASING HOUSE *Tuesdays, 7.30 pm, Visitors' Centre*

14 Jan Britons, Romans and the English David Whiter

11 Feb All These New Works ... What the Ruins tell us about Basing
House Alan Turton

11 Mar William Walker, the Diver who Saved Winchester Cathedral
Margaret Braddock

WINCHESTER EXCAVATIONS COMMITTEE

26 Nov Winchester Excavations and its Heritage *see page 17*

HAMPSHIRE FIELD CLUB www.fieldclub.hants.org

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