

# BASINGSTOKE ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY



**NEWSLETTER 144**

**August 1998**

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## YOUR NEW COMMITTEE FOR 1998/99

The officers, committee members and co-opted members resulting from the elections held at the AGM on June 18<sup>th</sup> 1998 are as follows:

**Chairman:**

Mrs Barbara Applin, 138, Old Kempshott Lane, Basingstoke RG22 5EN tel. 01256 465439

**Hon. Secretary:**

Tim Herrington, 16, Scotney Road, Basingstoke RG21 5SR tel. 01256 322090

**Hon. Treasurer:**

Peter Good, 95, Cliddesden Road, Basingstoke RG21 3EY tel. 01256 322771

**Committee:**

Mrs Linda Chapman, 20, Bramble Way, Old Basing, Basingstoke RG24 7JS tel. 01256 467872

Mrs Marta Cock, 16, Soper Grove, Basingstoke RG21 2PU tel. 01256 351506

Mrs Margaret Porter, 58, Minden Close, Chineham, Basingstoke RG24 8TH tel. 01256 356012

Miss Susan Strawson, 33, Alderwood, Chineham, Basingstoke RG24 8TU tel. 01256 353077

Les Fitzgerald, 10, Warbleton Road, Chineham, Basingstoke RG24 8RF tel. 01256 812557

Marten Harris, 3, Ramsholt Close, North Waltham, Basingstoke RG 25 2DG tel. 01256 397651

**Co-optd:**

Mrs Mary Oliver, 3, Milkingpen Lane, Old Basing, Basingstoke RG24 7DD tel. 01256 324263

Mr David Score, 57, Broadhurst, Cove, Farnborough GUI4 9XA tel. 01252 548591

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FOR 1998/9

Membership fees, which were due on May 1<sup>st</sup>, are unchanged at £11 for ordinary membership; £15 for family, and £7 for over 60's and students. If you have not yet renewed, there should be a replacement form attached to this newsletter for the one you have mislaid! Please send your fee to **Tim Herrington, 16, Scotney Road, Basingstoke RG21 5SR** - who will be happy to send you your membership card. If you have already paid, the card should be attached to this newsletter; please check and let Tim know if not.

## THE PROGRAMME CARD FOR 1998/9

Please check that a programme card has been included with this newsletter. Once again, Mary Oliver has worked extremely hard to finalise a series of autumn-to-spring meetings which we believe offer a splendid balance in content and in time span. Please make a careful note of the venues for each meeting as there are some differences to be taken into account.

### PROGRAMME NOTES FOR THE AUTUMN MEETINGS

by Mary Oliver

**10th September Exploring the ritual landscape of Cranborne Chase  
by Martin Green**

The number and nature of prehistoric sites on Cranborne Chase rival those in the Salisbury Plain area - terms like "sacred landscape" spring to mind! Martin Green, a farmer in Dorset, has the Cursus and many other monuments on his land. He will describe some of his excavations and their importance.

**NB** He has a remarkable collection of artefacts from all this work, which he is offering us the chance to see on **19th September** (see below). Some of us have seen his museum already and we thoroughly recommend it!

**8th October "To talk of many things, Of shoes and ships and sealing wax";  
gleanings from an underwater heritage  
by Margaret Rule**

This speaker needs no introduction; her work on the *Mary Rose* wreck has made her an international figure. Her aim in this talk is to demonstrate what can be learned from studying wrecks and how it amplifies our study of the past. *Mary Rose* will be one of the important illustrations, I'm sure. It will be good to be brought up to date on that work.

**13th November The Eton Rowing Lake: a prehistoric landscape by the Thames  
by Tim Allen**

You will, of course, remember that this lecture was on your programme last year but the speaker's illness meant we were disappointed, so we still look forward to hearing about this large excavation beside the Thames. This revealed a complex archaeological landscape with sites and finds dating from the Mesolithic to Roman, and, most significantly, a buried former channel of the river. Waterlogged timbers include structures and bridges from the Bronze Age and the Iron Age

### AUTUMN VISITS

**Saturday September 19<sup>th</sup> : Cranborne Chase Visit**

To repeat the note in the May newsletter, Martin Green will show us his Museum and excavated sites on his farm (charge £2.50 for entry) as well as other monuments on Cranborne Chase. Private cars; pub lunch or picnic. Please let Tim Herrington know **now** if you wish to come and have not applied - we must know how many are coming. **Tel 01256 322090.**

We meet at 10.30 am at Down Farm (ST 999149) - take the A354 from Salisbury westwards past the junction with the B3081 and, in just over a mile, take the minor road to the left at the next crossing (the minor road to the right goes to Sixpenny Handley and the one we take winds its way towards Wimborne St Giles). Look almost immediately to the right for the farm road which leads to Down Farm.

**Sunday October 18<sup>th</sup> at 2.30 pm: Guided Tour of Guildford**

Marten Harris has kindly arranged for us to have a guided walking tour of Guildford, which will start from under the clock overhanging the High Street, sharp at 2.30 pm. There will be a charge of £2, to be paid on the day, in order to cover expenses. This is the latest in our occasional series of town walks which have proved to be a popular feature of our 'local' visits, and you will find the town (sorry, city!) of Guildford an intriguing one. It is important for us to know how many to expect on this visit, so please let Tim Herrington know if you will be joining us (tel 01256 322090) in good time - do it now!

# BASINGSTOKE TALKING HISTORY

**LAUNCH!**

**Going Down Church Street to the Felgate Bookshop**

*by Mary Felgate and Barbara Applin*

This first book in our BASINGSTOKE TALKING HISTORY series  
will be  
launched with a reception  
at the Willis Museum at 7 pm for 7.15 on Monday 21st September.  
The Mayor has kindly agreed to be present and we hope  
that many  
members will be able to come - and to buy their copies of the  
book!  
Please let Tim Herrington know if you are coming so that we can  
provide  
appropriate refreshments (01256 322090).

The Basingstoke Talking History group of our Society continues to meet at the Willis Museum, and is now working on a proposed book of Basingstoke recollections to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the National Health Service. Helpers (and people to interview) still very welcome on this and other subjects. Ring Barbara Applin (01256 465439).

## HAMPSHIRE FIELD CLUB

25th September Wine and Cheese evening at the Willis Museum; cost £2.80. Some of our Society are personal members and we can send two representatives.

17th November Lecture by Dr Andy Russel "Recent Discoveries at Tudor House", Tudor Merchants' Hall, Southampton, 7.30 pm

Saturday 21st November Bronze and Iron: People and Places in later Prehistory Conference at Boldrewood Centre, Southampton University. Cost £10, students £3

## GCSE ARCHAEOLOGY

Enrolments are again invited for the GCSE course in Archaeology to be run by Mary Oliver and Theresa Hook at BCOT (Basingstoke College of Technology) from 6.30 to 9 pm on Tuesdays. The course starts in September **and is FREE!!** Enrolment 2nd or 7th September 4 pm - 8 pm or 5th September 10 am - 2 pm or ring 01256 306484

## NORTON ST PHILIP & FARLEIGH HUNGERFORD CASTLE

*by Margaret Bailey*

A very interesting day (18th July) was enjoyed by 13 members of BAHS when we visited the village of Norton St Philip in Somerset and Farleigh Hungerford Castle, not far from Trowbridge.

On arrival at the village in the morning we entered the Fleur de Lys pub - a lovely old hostelry with beams, and interesting nooks and crannies, which is situated opposite the George Inn - one of the most remarkable mediaeval inns in England. The ground floor dates from the 14th and 15th centuries and it has a 16th century timber-framed frontage to the upper floors. Unfortunately, the whole frontage was covered with scaffolding, as renovation is taking place.

After coffee we took the path along the side of The George and crossed the meadow to the church of St Philip and St James. As we crossed the green, we were able to look behind us and see the back view of the George Inn. It is really an extensive building and was used as a collection centre for the bales of wool and cloth, as this was a centre for the wool trade.

The church proved to be well worth visiting. The oldest visible part of the church fabric in the South porch and wall is of early 14th century construction. We were amused to note that a certain Jeffrey Flower had made use of "odds and ends" of building material from Hinton Priory to add to the embellishment of the church, which may account for the variety of design in the arches in the chancel and the nave.

I was interested in the "renowned" twin heads of the Fair Maids of Foscott on the wall of a small chamber in the church. Samuel Pepys visited the church in 1668 and writes of "the tombstone whereon there were only two heads cut, which the story goes, and creditably, were two sisters called the faire maids of Foscott, that had two bodies joined at the stomache and there lie buried". Foscott is the neighbouring hamlet of Foxcote. On leaving the church, we wandered round the village returning to the Fleur de Lys for lunch.

In the afternoon we travelled to the nearby Farleigh Hungerford Castle. Sir Thomas Hungerford, the first Speaker of the House of Commons, fortified the manor house between 1370 and 1380, and the Hungerfords lived

there for some 200 years, surviving the turmoil of the Wars of the Roses and the Tudors. We toured the extensive remains and, with the help of excellent audio guides, were able to get a vivid picture of the history of the castle and those connected with it.

In the chapel, which survives intact, we were treated to a talk by a gentleman in the guise of Sir Ralph of Epperstone, a mediaeval physician, who told us of the many strange cures of the times including some which have in recent times been shown to have had some efficacy. Many of the remedies, however, were inclined to make us appreciate the N.H.S. The chapel itself contained the Hungerford tombs, and the vault beneath the chapel contains the lead coffins of six adults and two children.

The sun shone on us throughout the afternoon and, thanks to Marta's organisation, we had a most enjoyable day.

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The Hayward's House on the Common

## SOME HAYWARDS OF BASINGSTOKE

*by Diana Mackarill (nee Paice)*

Basingstoke has had a hayward from at least the thirteenth century - and has one still.

The word "hayward" comes from the Old English *Hege Ward* or "hedge keeper", and that has always been one of his responsibilities. In mediaeval times he supervised the common lands and was protector of the common hedge which separated arable from pasture, controlling the pasturing of the people's animals. He was "*duly sworn ... to be employed and engaged for the general benefit of all the tenants*"<sup>1</sup> so he was responsible to the community. (The modern surname probably has a different origin, from Old German *Howard*, meaning "high" or "chief" warden).

Tenants were responsible for fencing their holdings, the hayward for ensuring that they did so. These fences were usually temporary, either hurdles or “dead” hedges which could be moved, allowing the cattle to wander over the arable strips after harvest and in Spring before crops were sown.

Details of the hayward’s work are recorded in Basingstoke’s *Constitutions ordained and composed in the Common Mote Hall* of 1389, which also sets out his remuneration:

*“The said Hayward shall receive for the faithful performance of his duty, the third part of the penalty exacted for all and every animal impounded. Also, he shall receive from every man having sown land in the fields ... as much corn in sheaf for his harvest gift as the donor may be content to give.”* <sup>2</sup>

His work included control of the cattle, especially the impounding of those that strayed:

*“If anyone’s swine or porkers shall be found trespassing in the corn sown in the fields ... then they ought to be taken and impounded by the said Hayward ...”* <sup>3</sup>

This was not always straightforward:

*“If anyone’s swine or porkers shall be so wild that they cannot be enclosed in the pound, the Hayward ... shall follow the animals to the house where they dwell, and there by the view and testimony of the neighbours and trustworthy persons, he or they shall have compensation according to the extent of the injury from him who claims the said swine.”* <sup>4</sup>

Dealing with the owners of straying cattle was sometimes hazardous, as an entry of 1535 shows:

*“Thomas Pette, who keeps the Crown Inn has made an assault with blood shed since the last court ... upon John Parker, Hayward of the fields of Basingstoke; and the wife of the same Thomas also drew blood from the head of this John, against the peace, while executing his office at Parkend when their cattle were doing damage in the fields of the town. Fined 8d each. 11 September 1535.”* <sup>5</sup>

A presentment of the neighbouring Court Baron of Basing in 1795 requires the then hayward, Edward Sex, to pursue owners of higher standing:

*“We continue to present the Rev. Dr Grimond and Luke Ackland Smith as Owners of the Lands adjoining and abutting Marling Dell to rail and properly fence the same immediately and that the Hayward do give notice to them thereof.”* <sup>6</sup>

Other troubles in Basing are revealed in a surviving handwritten note of 1802:

<i>July 13</i>	<i>Mr Whisler Boy drives his Cows from Ric Taplin in Shirlatt Green</i>
<i>July 16</i>	<i>Mr David Tubbs Boy did the Same by his Cows</i>
<i>August 15</i>	<i>David Tubbs Boy Drives from his Cows from me again</i>

*Ric Taplin the Hayward”* <sup>7</sup>

Haywards were usually appointed at the Court Leet of the Manor; it is recorded in Basing that *“We continue to present John Baffe to be Hayward for Newnham for the year ensuing”* (1791), while in 1802 *“we*

*present and continue Richard Taplin Hayward for Basing for the year ensuing or until another be appointed in his stead."*

In some areas today manorial rights have been transferred to the National Trust as in Cockmarsh, Berkshire, and Stockbridge, Hampshire, while in High Wycombe the common pasture became charitable property in the sixteenth century, then passing to the Corporation from 1562.

Basingstoke's *Constitutions* laid down in 1389 that the common lands "*in the manner and form underwritten shall endure for ever*". Controls were always needed. In 1506 "*Rich Smith of Chyddesden overburdened the common with more sheep than by his land he ought to place there*"<sup>8</sup> and in 1535 an *Ordinance for the Common* complained that the common was used in a manner "*contrary to the composition of the town, to the great detriment of the freeholders and farmers. It is ordered and determined by the assent of the proved men of the town ... that henceforth no one shall overburden the common ... either with their own sheep or with those under their charge belonging to strangers, under the penalty of forfeiting 20s every time, but that every one should keep ... two sheep for every acre of arable land, and that they ought not to have or be allowed more than 5 sheep pasturing in the common called le downe for two acres of field land ...*"<sup>9</sup>

By 1786 there had been major changes: "*the common fields and waste lands were enclosed, except for a stinted common of 107 acres on the east side of the town, which was allotted to the owners of houses and tenements in the borough in lieu of their former rights of pasturage after harvest over the common fields.*"<sup>10</sup> The common then was to be managed by the Mayor, two of the Borough Justices, and the four churchwardens, now "The Trustees".

At a meeting of the Trustees on 10 May 1835, rates for pasturing were set out:

<i>Dues:</i>	<i>For every Mare Gelding Cow Steer Heifer Ass or Mule</i>	<i>4s</i>
	<i>For every Colt of Calf under one year old</i>	<i>2s</i>
	<i>For every Pig</i>	<i>9d</i>

and over and above the same sum, to the Hayward William Brackstone

<i>For Cattle per head</i>	<i>1s 6d</i>
<i>For every Pig</i>	<i>6d<sup>1</sup></i>

This table is useful in establishing just what animals were pastured: sheep are not mentioned, on this reduced common, though they were numerous earlier. Restrictions covered animals over a certain age, and earlier at nearby Basing "*We present that Asses are no commonable Creatures; We present that Geese are no commonable Creatures*" (1696). In 1765 the hayward of Basing was paid 3d a head for impounding "*all sort of Black Cattle*" and 1s for every score of sheep and hogs.

Thus the hayward received part of the dues payable for every legitimately pastured beast, and a further amount for those he impounded. In addition, he usually received a weekly wage - in 1835 James Tolfree was paid 4s 6d a week in Basingstoke.

A more important reward, however, was free accommodation; it is not clear when the first Hayward's House was built on the Common, but a Minute of 30 August 1825 states "*it appears necessary for the management and regulation of the Common and also for the better protection of the Cattle therein that a house should be erected at or near the Gate of the Common called Hackwood Gate for the residence of a person*



to assist in the superintendence and regulation of the Common" (i.e. a second house)<sup>12</sup>. On 17 October 1836 "John Spencer was appointed assistant Hayward, to reside in the new Cottage on the Common ... that he do watch the Gate near the Cottage and see that no damage be done to the Cattle or Fences". A regular book had to be kept by the hayward with the names of users, and particulars of their animals.

In 1839 Stephen Lawes was appointed hayward at 10s a week, with the rent-free house. Besides looking after the pasturing, he had to "cut and trim all Hedges at the proper Season to cleanse out the Ditches and keep up the embankments and to obey all the orders and directions of the Trustees". More is known about the next hayward, Nathaniel Paice, appointed in 1843. Paid 10s a week, and living in the Hayward's House on the Common, he had additional duties - to lock and unlock the gates at the proper time, and "to watch the Common from the day the Cattle are turned thereon, until the eighteenth day of October inclusive". The pasturing dues were set at 6s for cattle and horses, 2s 9d for pigs, with the hayward receiving 1s 6d and 6d respectively.<sup>13</sup>

Aged 25 on appointment, Nathaniel was a local man, the son of a labourer; his grandfather, also a labourer, had been a churchwarden in nearby Sherfield-on-Loddon. He had married in Southampton in 1840, signing the Register, his occupation given as "milkman"; back in Basingstoke in 1841 the census records him as a labourer. Probably he was working on the Hackwood Estate of Lord Bolton, as were several of his relatives. Day labourers there were paid 2s a day, with no guarantee of regular work; rents on estate cottages were about £3 p.a. The hayward's wage of 10s would not have been an increase in itself, but it was regular, not weather dependent, and a substantial additional sum would come from the dues - and no rent to pay. There was also pay for additional work - July 27 Paice and Castle (assistant) received £1 7s 4d "for pulling weeds" while in 1846 Mrs Paice had £1 2s 8d for fifteen days pulling weeds.<sup>14</sup> Such extras must have been important to a family with already four children.

However, in May 1853 Nathaniel Paice tendered his resignation to the Trustees. Unfortunately no reason was given; it was unusual for a hayward not to die in office. In 1861 he appears in the census as "labourer" again, but in 1871 and 1881 he is described as "dairyman" - presumably better paid.

Modern Basingstoke is unusual in retaining its hayward - but it has moved its Common! This is the result of the large-scale development in the 1960s. Much of the common was allocated in the Town Map primarily for residential purposes, but in fact it was required for the construction of the Southern Ringway. The Borough Council proposed to buy 101 acres of the existing 108 acres of the Common, and purchased 102 acres of land east of the town for substitution. At the Public Inquiry in 1971 "it was pointed out that no objections to the alternative Common had been raised by Borough citizens in respect of their rights to air and exercise ..." It had been noted by the Town Development Committee in 1969 that "in recent years few commoners have exercised their rights to graze animals, and many of these rights have been extinguished"<sup>15</sup>. In September 1972 the Secretary of State allowed the transfer of the Common from its traditional site.<sup>11</sup> One of the Basingstoke Councillors on the Development Committee, and a Trustee of the Common, was Charles Paice, a distant relative of Nathaniel the hayward (though he did not know of the connection).

The hayward's post survives, on this attenuated Common; his duties are general - collecting fees for animals, making sure fences are repaired and water troughs working properly, animals looked after, owners being contacted if they need attention. The Trustees set a yearly allowance, but no free housing. The Hayward's House was demolished some years ago.

So, an ancient role continues, the modern hayward adapting to changes of land use and customs, in some areas still appointed by the Court Leet or employed by the National Trust, and subject to agricultural regulations of the EEC. The Basingstoke Common may have diminished but its hayward survives.

### ***Acknowledgements***

Much of this material appeared in *The Hatcher Review - Vol 5, no 43, Spring 1997* in my article Haywards in Wessex: the survival of a mediaeval occupation; my thanks are due to the Editor for permission to use it here.

Acknowledgement is also due to the Hampshire Record Office, and to the Trustees of Basingstoke Common for allowing me to consult their Minute Books.

### ***References***

- 1 F J Baigent and J E Millard, *History of Basingstoke* (B'stoke, 1920)
- 2 and 3 Baigent and Millard, p. 214
- 4 Baigent and Millard, p. 215
- 5 HRO 11M49 325 Court Rolls, Manor of Basing 1795
- 6 Baigent and Millard p. 326 from Court Rolls
- 7 Basing, MS on odd piece of paper, in Bolton Papers, HRO 1802
- 8 Baigent & Millard, p. 567
- 9 Baigent & Millard, p. 325 *An Ordinance for the Common View of Frank Pledge* 17 April 1535
- 10 Baigent & Millard, p. 567
- 11 Basingstoke Common Minute Book, 1825; held by the Trustees
- 12-14 As above
- 15 *Basingstoke Gazette* 13 August 1971. See also Annual Reports of Basingstoke Town Development Committee 1969-72 in Basingstoke Public Library

### ***Names of some other haywards noted in the area:***

1696	Henry Hill jun.	Basing
1696	William Tuggoy & Walter Hiscock	Kingsclere
1757	William Appleton & Stephen Wise	Kingsclere
1828	John Seward	Kingsclere
1829	William May	Basing
1832	John Foster	Kingsclere

***Spellings are as given in the original documents; money has been standardised to £ s d.***

***The photograph (undated) of the Hayward's House on the Common is used with the permission of the Hampshire County Museum Service.***

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## A SPECIAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

*by Barbara Applin*



On 25th July Bob and I went to an event in the Great Hall, Winchester, organised by the Historical Association, The Embassy of Spain and the Instituto Cervantes. This was a lecture and concert to celebrate the anniversary of the wedding of Philip II of Spain and Mary Tudor which took place in Winchester Cathedral on 25th July 1554. After the wedding they were “accommodated” in the Great Hall so it was fitting that the event took place there. And did you know that they spent their honeymoon at Basing House? Imagine going out from a Basingstoke home to watch their procession ride by!

The lecture by Professor I A A Thompson from Keele University told of the opposition to Philip in Spain; it was particularly interesting to hear how courtiers and clergymen encouraged and interpreted “dreams” for propaganda purposes.

After an interval with “refreshments in the Spanish style”, music of the time was performed by **Coro Cervantes**, an excellent group of singers directed by **Carlos Fernandes Aransay**. There was music by composers of the English, Spanish and Flemish Royal Chapels - including Dowland, Tallis, Tye and Byrd and the concert ended with the lament written for Philip’s death four hundred years ago.

## C A L E N D A R

Sat/Sun 8/9 Aug	17 <sup>th</sup> Century Living History Basing House	FBH
Sun 9 Aug	Visit to Silchester	BAHS
Wed 19 Aug	Evening visit to Prof. Barry Cunliffe's excavation, Grately Roman villa 6.30	HFC
Thurs 10 Sept	EXPLORING THE RITUAL LANDSCAPE OF CRANBORNE CHASE Martin Green	BAHS*
Sat/Sun 12/13th	Heritage Open Days Basing House	FBH
Sun 13th Sept	The Grand Alliance with the Monmouth Rebellion	FBH
Thurs 17 Sept	Two Centuries of Hampshire Gerald Ponting	FWM
Sat 19 Sept	Visit to Cranborne Chase	BAHS
Fri 25 Sept	Cheese & Wine at Willis Museum 6.30	HFC
Sat 27 Sept	Guided Tour Basing House	FBH
Thurs 8 Oct	TO TALK OF MANY THINGS, OF SHOES AND SHIPS AND SEALING WAX: Gleanings from our Underwater Heritage Margaret Rule	BAHS*
Thurs 15 Oct	AGM & Milestones Update Tim Evans	FWM
Sun 18 Oct	Visit to Guildford	BAHS
Thurs 12 Nov	ETON ROWING LAKE: a Prehistoric Landcape by the Thames Tim Allen	BAHS*
Thurs 19 Nov	Another evening with John & Tony	FWM
Sat 21 Nov	To be announced	BAHS
Thurs 10 Dec	CHRISTMAS SOCIAL EVENING	BAHS*

BAHS	our society	* Venue to be confirmed
HFC	Hampshire Field Club	
FWM	Friends of the Willis Museum, Willis Museum, 7.30 pm	
FBH	Friends of Basing House	

**Paper and Printing supplied by  Arjo Wiggins**