

BASINGSTOKE ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER 187

May 2009

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AGM 11th June

**+ Short presentation by David Allen and Mark Peryer
on recent work at Basing House**

Membership Subscriptions

Mark Peryer

We are finding that collecting membership subscriptions is becoming increasingly more time consuming. As in all of these things, most people pay their subscription on time, but we have had a few instances where members have been embarrassed by their forgetfulness very late into the subscription year. I'd feel happier if the time and energy spent keeping on top of this by committee members was spent on something more constructive.

In order to smooth things out, the committee would like to propose the introduction of a direct debit option for paying subscriptions. The cost of a subscription paid by direct debit would remain the same as in previous years. However, in order to encourage you in your choice we would increase the cost of subscriptions not paid by direct debit by £1.

The membership fees for 2009/2010 would therefore be:

Membership	Paid by direct debit	Paid otherwise
Individual	£11	£12
Family (Same household)	£15	£16
Student/Over 60	£7	£8
Over 60 Family	£12	£13

The necessary direct debit form will be included with the next Newsletter

Visit to Silchester Excavations

Thursday 30 July 2009

Ginny Pringle



(Photos: Ginny Pringle)

As usual, meet at the car park at 6pm for 6.30
(remember it's quite a long walk to the site).

Fieldwork Report

Mark Peryer: e-mail mperyer@f2s.com Tel: 01256 780502

In February we got permission from the landowner to conduct a survey of Hay Wood, which is to the north-east of Great Deane Wood which we surveyed a couple of years ago. On Saturday 7th March a group of BAHS volunteers went into Hay Wood and spent the day going through the various compartments and noting what they found. We found a lynchet and a number of banks and ditches which seem to be aligned either with some former land boundaries or a trackway which has gone out of use since the development of a modern road. Some desk top research is in progress to try to find some documentary evidence to uncover the story behind these earthworks. This was a first time out in the field with the Society's GPS units and I think that generally we found the whole process much easier, since we could concentrate on finding things rather than counting the number of paces from the last bearing. There were some lessons learnt in the recording and these will be applied to the next survey.



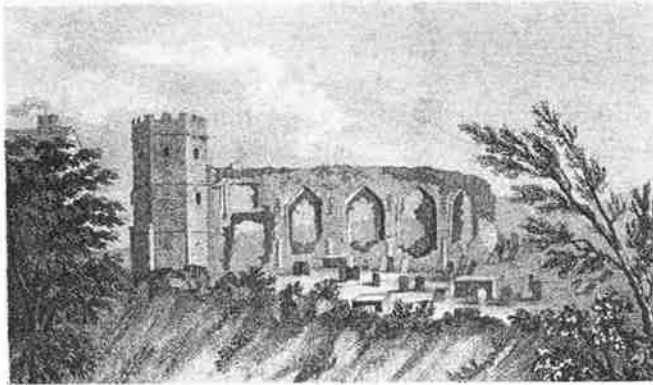
On the edge of Hay Wood – Using GPS and still smiling

In the last newsletter I reported that we had been successful in obtaining a Grassroots Grant from the HIWCF. Since then we have purchased a Total Station and as I write this we are organising training at Winchester University for some initial users. The intention is then for this 'core team' to provide instruction to Society members as part of forthcoming fieldwork activities.

In May Dave Allen is leading an excavation of the Western Gate at Basing House as part of the lottery funded improvements to the interpretation of the site. **The dig runs from the 11th to the 29th May.** Application forms and further details are available from me.

Basingstoke Heritage Society needs your help

Debbie Reavell



We are on track to hold an 'open day' in the old cemetery at South View on Sunday 13th September from 10.00 to 4.00. We have already involved members of BAHS and Friends of the Willis and NADFAS may also be able to help.

The cemetery is a large site and we will need stewards to be at various points to expand on information which visitors may want (rather as NT stewards work).

We will also need people to be at each of the 3 entrances to welcome visitors and to hand out a programme for the day's events (we hope to have a drama done twice and a talk about the ruins also twice).

We will also do a trail of 19th century Basingstoke people who are buried here and who are of local historical interest and we would like to have stewards who have mugged up a bit about an individual to be able to give visitors a wider experience. We will be able to provide the necessary notes although there will be lots of you in BAHS with plenty of facts at your fingertips.

We will have tours of the Commonwealth War Graves and of the Victoria Cross holder and a tented display of the history of this site.

It will be a real opportunity to get to know this place – not to be missed, so please do think of helping out. It should be an interesting day and if you can give even an hour or two, please contact Debbie Reavell on 473390 or Reavell@btinternet.com Many thanks.

HAMPSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST *VISITS TO CHURCHES*

The Trust has arranged the following visits to churches of historic and architectural interest, to take place **on Saturday, 20 June 2009:**

- 2.30 p.m. Farnborough Abbey – a mini-cathedral built for the Empress Eugénie as a mausoleum for Napoleon III
- 4.30 p.m. Eversley Church, home of Charles Kingsley, author of the Water Babies

If you wish to take part in these visits, please let me know by Sunday, 7 June 2009.

Ralph Atton

0118 970 0825 ralph.atton@btopenworld.com

The Joy Of Giving

Mark Peryer: e-mail mperyer@f2s.com Tel: 01256 780502

One of my biggest fears is being dragged along to something like a Barn Dance where I find myself hanging around feeling awkward until I join in and then after that the time flies by.

The lesson in life here is that I have always found that getting stuck into something makes it much more enjoyable, rewarding and interesting than just dabbling at the edges. This applies to projects and activities at work, home and leisure. Getting more involved often means getting to know people better and leads to all sorts of new possibilities. Willingly giving a bit more of my time always leads to the joy of seeing something work out better. Often a short term commitment, a few minutes every now and again, makes an organisation or a project run much more smoothly.

In this spirit, I should like you to consider whether this year is the year that you would like to get involved in any of the following in support of the smooth running of the Society:

- Pre-meeting set up of sound and projection equipment
- Interviewing and transcribing for Basingstoke Talking History
- Sound editing of Basingstoke Talking History recordings
- Newsletter editing and distribution
- Keeping the Society's website up to date
- Publicity of the Society's activities (Posters and opportunities)
- Helping to organise trips and outings
- Helping to organise the lecture programme
- Joining the after meeting tea and coffee rota
- Desk-top research in support of society fieldwork
- Working with landowners to get their permission for fieldwork
- Helping with writing up fieldwork

Please feel free to come to me ... before I come to you!



Congratulations to Marjolein!

We are delighted to announce that Marjolein Mussellwhite has been asked to stand for election as Chairman of CBA Wessex (the Council for British Archaeology) at their AGM on 9th May. This is a prestigious office in an active and influential body, and we know that Marjolein will bring a great deal of enthusiasm, organisational ability and - essentially - unflappability - to this role.

What can I say about it? - I'm daunted by the responsibility but also very honoured to have been invited. I think it's a tremendous opportunity to get more closely involved with archaeology in the Wessex region and I'm looking forward to working with the Committee on the challenges that face the region. I'm very grateful for the support from the BATHS!

Marjolein

Ongoing Work At Chilcomb

Alan J Jacobs alan.jacobs@hants.gov.uk

'Stores Sundays' (and Thursdays)

Over the last 18 months we have been continuing work at Chilcomb to sort out and record the archaeology collections held by Hampshire Museum Service. Considerable assistance has been provided by a team of volunteers and annual work placements with Thursdays and third Sundays of the month being set aside as volunteer days. The 'special relationship' that exists with the Basingstoke Archaeological & Historical Society has continued with many members taking part in helping to sort the paper archive. This has now been re-boxed and re-shelved.

In addition volunteers have worked extensively on re-bagging and boxing artefacts from the old Basing House excavations. This work is essential in allowing continuing post excavation work in support of the ongoing fieldwork at Basing. Other sites worked on include the Christchurch Old Collection, identifying and re-bagging artefacts relating to the Red House Museum collections. Much of this material was accumulated in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Artefacts have varied from an 18th century flintlock mechanism washed up on Mudeford beach to a lead slingshot originating in Rhodes.

NB The May 'Stores Sunday' has had to be changed from 17th to 24th.

The June Stores day will be on the 21st

There will be no Stores day in July

Festival of Archaeology

We will be undertaking seven specific events at different museums around the county:

18 July	Lymington
24 July	Rockbourne
25 July	Red House Museum, Christchurch
27 July	Aldershot
28 July	Eastleigh
29 July	Andover
1 Aug	Alton

The archaeology road show will consist of three tables.

At **Table 1** volunteers demonstrating how they work on different aspects of archaeological archives (re-bagging finds, database input and sorting paper records).

Table 2 will contain handling artefacts and a small display case relating to local archaeology, where possible. We will also have a photographic display on boards relating to our talks to partially sighted groups and volunteering ('Beyond the Glass Case', see below).

Table 3 will contain the various publications, second-hand books and leaflets about archaeology in Hampshire and Southeast Dorset, as well as a small quiz/drawing competition for the youngsters.

If you wish to take part in this event or in volunteering please get in touch with me at the address below.

'Beyond the Glass Case'

Part of my brief as archaeology collections manager for the Hampshire Museum Service consists of making our collections more accessible. For many sections of society our museums are of limited value due to problems of access or perception. In particular the partially sighted find our museum cases a 'desert'. With this in mind and in association with William Phillips, a partially-sighted colleague, and with the assistance of a number of different volunteers, we undertook to put together an outreach programme of talks/handling sessions.

The project involved putting together a handling collection of artefacts from specific areas of the historic county of Hampshire. Each session consists of an archaeological talk and handling session using artefacts from many different historic and prehistoric periods. As part of the talk we describe what the archaeology section of the Hampshire Museum Service does, and give a short instructional talk on the safe handling of archaeological artefacts.

The objectives are:

- To give partially-sighted individuals an opportunity to access archaeological artefacts held by the Museum Service, that are otherwise inaccessible to them.
- To broaden access to the archaeological collections.
- For individuals to gain a basic knowledge of what the archaeology department does and how artefacts are collected, deposited and curated within the Hampshire Museum Service.

Artefacts used within the sessions include Palaeolithic axes, dating potentially 500,000 years old, Mesolithic tools and arrowheads 6,500 to 8000 old. More recent artefacts include Neolithic or New Stone Age polished axes dating from between 4,100 to 6,500 years ago and Iron Age pebble slingshot from the Danebury hillfort. The second phase of this project has involved a talk on Roman artefacts including mosaic fragments, pottery and arrowheads.

So far we have delivered talks to partially-sighted groups in Havant, Gosport, Fareham, Waterlooville and Portsmouth and have extended the project into a second year.



*Barbara Applin 01256 465439
barbara.applin@btinternet.com*

We are still gathering material for our forthcoming book **CHRISTMAS IN BASINGSTOKE**, but we hope to have everything we need very soon. **Here is a last-minute appeal for anyone who would like to contribute some memory or comment, or potential illustration.**

We are particularly looking for

- ❖ Christmas/New Year cards or Christmas decorations etc that have relevance for Basingstoke
- ❖ Examples of generosity at Christmas
- ❖ Anything unusual

We have a few historical references and would like to add more, if anyone can find anything - and also include some up-to-date 'memories'. The book will follow through from the lead up to Christmas, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and the New Year, mixing up old and more recent customs, events etc.

As 'a taster', here is a Christmas card given to the Willis Museum by Mary Felgate, probably sold in her grandmother's shop in Church Street.



PLENTY OF SMILES ALL ROUND...



Photo: Tim Mussellwhite

*Saturday 25 April ...
we visited Windsor to see the Henry VIII exhibition and much else besides ...
a great day out was had by all !*

Closing Sail (sorry!)

Nicola Turton

You could be forgiven for thinking that if you lived close to the ruins of the largest private house in Tudor England, you'd visit it. And yet every month we get someone from Old Basing village who has never been. Equally, here in the south of England we have ready access to our very own English Pompeii, the *Mary Rose*, and still we speak to so many people who say 'Ooh, I've never been, I must go one day...'

Even if you weren't there at the time, I bet you've seen on TV the emotional moment when Henry VIII's favourite ship once again saw the sky and her home port. If, and I'm *sure you have*, you've visited the wreck, perhaps you felt as I did when I first saw her in the flesh (I mean oak!). I remember being taken aback by the vastness of the *Mary Rose*; she is so much bigger than you would expect from the newsreels. The ship hall is kept in low light, and since 1982 the *Mary Rose* has been constantly sprayed: to wash the salt away, then with PEG to preserve her, and now with water to rinse her before the drying procedure starts. All the spraying means she comes forward from the misty gloom like a ghost ship. Some of the planking looks so solid that you can easily imagine a sailor running across her deck. His feet slapping against the wood as he carried out an order, or, on the last day, as he tried and failed to find a way through the anti-boarding nets.

I was in the bath one morning when I heard on the radio that the *Mary Rose* Trust had been provisionally granted £21 million towards the new museum – I screeched so loudly that I think Alan

thought I was dying, but I was so delighted. The Trust continues to fund-raise and has just submitted the final application to secure the full amount. The total needed is £35 million (including the £21 million from the Lottery) and the Trust has so far raised £8.4 million, leaving a mere £5.6 million to go. But what an achievement already – over £8 million! The ship hall will close in September 2009, as the museum is built around our precious ship, and we won't see her again until 2012, although the current museum will remain open.

The *Mary Rose* collecting box we have says 'Because She's Ours'. And she is ours, and a very precious relic of a vanished time. Go to Portsmouth right now and see her before she vanishes for two years. She will doubtless be improved when we see her again, but to paraphrase Shakespeare, those who don't see her now, in her dim and magical state, 'Shall think themselves accurs'd they were not there...'

Queries

Barbara Applin

Here is a "follow-up" on some enquiries reported in Newsletter 185.

Draper's Hill Terrace

We have discovered that this is one of three terraces set on a bank on the south side of Winchester Road, and it still has its name on it.



And here are some new enquiries.. Can anybody add anything to our replies?

Brownjohn family

We have had an e-mail from someone who has been researching for a family history the origins of the family of John Brownjohn, who was christened in Basingstoke 1833, migrated to Australia between 1854 and 1859 when he married at Penrith NSW and died in Mittagong NSW in 1875.

'His father Henry was a wine merchant and in his Will he mandated "if convenient but not otherwise that my body be buried in my family vault in the chancel of Eastrop Church by the side of my late beloved and lamented wife Susannah Brownjohn". The records of the church show that both Susannah and Henry had funeral services in the church.

I visited this church when on a visit to England in 2007. Unfortunately the oldest part of the church, which is now used only for weddings and funerals and the like, was restored in the 1960s and the floor carpeted over. The church officers told me that underneath the floor is now the boiler room.

Does anyone know whether any record of inscriptions of such a vault are recorded anywhere? It seems unlikely that the vault would just have been covered over in the 1960s without any effort to record the family information on it. I attach a record of Henry Brownjohn's family as far as I have been able to trace it so far. I found the burial plot of his brother Joshua and some of his family in Over Wallop. Some of your members may be related to Henry Brownjohn and interested to know that they have cousins in Australia.

I would be grateful for your help, as I hope to be in England in May and to follow up any useful leads. This is what is known so far about the Brownjohns..

Henry Brownjohn born about 1792-1850 England d. March 1850 Walsall (Midlands – mistake for Wherwell, Hants?) (record taken from Family History Centre bound registers, in which there are said to be quite a few mistakes). In his will he refers to his brothers Joshua Brownjohn of Upper Wallop and John of Middle Wallop and to his brother-in-law Henry King of Fullerton. Married 1818 Wherwell, Hampshire, England. Described at his marriage as a wine merchant and at his death as a gentleman. m. Susannah King b. 1797 d. 1839 Basingstoke

They had the following children (listed from family paper by Joshua? Brownjohn, see below.

Henry William	b. 1819, d. 1821
William Henry	b. 20 Jly 1820 Basingstoke d. 3 June 1891
Henry	b. 7 Dec 1823 chr 7 Dec 1823 Basingstoke d. 1903 aged 79, S. Stoneham
Susannah)	14 Mar (1825)
Elizabeth)	

1881 census Household at Red House St. Denys Rd S. Stoneham, Hampshire included Susannah age 55, Mary age 54 (these 2 living on funded property and annuity) and Henry aged 57 (no profession or income)

Mary	17 Oct b. about 1827 d. 1899 Southhampton
Fred	b. 4 Apr 1828 chr 9 May 1828 Basingstoke

Jonathan(?)	<i>b. 29 Dec 1829 d.23 March 1830</i>
Jane	<i>b. about 1830</i>
Joshua	<i>b. 30 Dec 1831 chr. 7 Feb. 1832 Basingstoke</i>
John	<i>b. 24 June 1833 chr 25 July 1833 Basingstoke</i> <i>d. 1(8?) Oct 189(3?) Mittagong NSW</i>

I was able to send the following details from billheads held at the Hampshire Museums & Archives Service HQ at Childomb House.

H Brownjohn, Wine & Spirit Merchant, Basingstoke

1819 Two and Half per Cent discount for Prompt Payment of Six Months Credit (Mr Workman)
1819 Up to July 1820; paid 1 Aug 1820 (Mr Lamb)
1821 April 21, 1 doz pale sherry £2.14.0, pd Jan 1823 (Mr Lamb)

Cox family And here is a query from Lincolnshire

We are trying to find descendants of my late dad's cousin Elsie née Cox b 1898 Gosport. LKA at 189 or 191 Winchester Rd in 1946 when maiden aunt Emily Ann Cox died there in January 1946, aged 82. We know that Elsie had at least one son as my late grandma had his photograph.

We have drawn a blank on Elsie's marriage (ie we do not have her married name).

They mentioned a possible connection with Thorntons or Hailstones but could find no listing of Elsie marrying anyone from either family. I was able to tell them that in the 1941 Kelly's Directory for Winchester Road, Albt Thornton was listed ad 189 and Louis Alfd Hailstone at 191. They replied:

The Albert Thornton you found in 1941 appears to be the A Thornton who was the informant on the 1946 death cert.

And then, unexpectedly:

We have just found the marriage of our Elsie Cox to the Albert Thornton who you found in the Basingstoke Street directories. The marriage was much later than we expected, in 1936 in Chanctonbury near Horsham. Also birth of their son David A Thornton in 1938 in Basingstoke. Our task now is to find son David or descendants. Thanks to you we know that the family were at 189 Winchester Rd Basingstoke in 1941 and 1948.

Ann Mitchell, of Basingstoke Library added the following:

Checking the local directories, Albert is shown at the same address in Winchester Road in 1952. Our next directory is 1955 and he has disappeared but an Albert reappears in the 1960 one at 71 Elmwood Way, Basingstoke. The 1967 directory shows at Mrs. E Thornton at that address, and she is still there in the 1974 directory, which is when our run of directories finish. Henry Thornton was Mayor of Basingstoke for 1942/1943.

Looking into this further, I found quite a lot of other Thorntons in the directories, and some in Basing. The 1974 directory has a DA Thornton at 27 Buckland Avenue and a David A Thornton at 90 Pinkerton Rd. And I had more information about Henry Thornton, just in case he is part of the family. He had an advert in the 1941 directory. He had a bakery and shop at 109 Flaxfield Rd and his shop at 36 Winchester St, was next door to The Wheatsheaf : by 1974 this was Weller Eggar auctioneers & estate agents. This photo, was taken last year of a sign for Teas etc on the side of that building . The bakery was taken over by Prices (Eastleigh) Ltd, part of a bigger chain that made Mr Kipling cakes.



IfA

If anyone is interested in the goings-on of the **IfA (Institute for Archaeologists)**, ask Debz Charlton who recently attended their annual conference (deborah.charlton@winchester.ac.uk). Among subjects discussed were:

‘Post-Excavation and Project Management’

‘I’m on the Train!’ – New technologies and the Historic Environment: A Practical Guide for Geeks, Nerds and Technophobes’

‘Communities in the Field’ – Discussion Sponsored by: CBA

For the Love of...

Ginny Pringle

Barbara's article in the last Newsletter (about debt-ridden people emigrating from Basingstoke in the mid-19th century) left me wondering if there were other reasons why people would have uprooted and moved away - and then I remembered the story of Eli Whitear.

Eli was the cousin and close friend of my 'many greats' grandfather William Whitear (pronounced Whicher). They grew up together in the sleepy village of Preston Candover betwixt Basingstoke and Alresford. Eli's father John was the village blacksmith and as his only son, Eli was expected to one day inherit the family business. He grew up amidst the activities of the forge - watching his father shoe horses and repair broken wheels or axles and helping his mother in the Forge Cottage beer shop. Although most children attended school until they were ten or eleven, Eli was still a scholar at the age of fourteen. He grew into a fine young man with a dry sense of humour that made people enjoy his company. He also sang in the church choir and was able to play several musical instruments. One by one Eli's friends married but at 26 he was still single and it wasn't until he met Emma Brooks that he realised it was time for him to marry as well. However, there was a serious obstacle in their way - she was a Mormon, belonging to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The village of Preston Candover had not tolerated Mormon converts. In 1851 a Mormon missionary, Elder William Budge, had come to the area and as he made converts in Alresford, Wield and Nutley, local ministers became alarmed. Wild stories spread throughout the area as they had done in other parts of the country - Mormons were reported to have grown horns and kept women captive in their temples! Among the converts was an acquaintance of Eli's, a young blacksmith of Alresford named Henry Rampton. As soon as Henry was baptised his prosperous blacksmith trade fell to mere nothing with even his own family joining the boycott. When Elder Budge came to Preston Candover to teach his gospel, the stories and rumours had already spread before him. Here, he found the Parker family; Maria Parker was the teacher in the local school and William her husband was the Parish Clerk and worked at the local brickyards. They and their family had been staunch members of the Church of England and the village reacted strongly to their conversion. After they were baptised, Maria was dismissed as teacher and William was sacked from both of his positions. He could find no work except the charity work of breaking up stones to put in the boggy parts of the roads. Evicted from their cottage, they were more or less forced to emigrate to America. Eli's sense of justice was offended at this persecution.

When Emma Brooks and her two sisters Fanny and Maria were converted their parents disowned them and they were forced to leave home, so they saved to buy passage on a ship bound for America. Eli was very attracted to Emma and courted her whenever possible, but when his parents discovered he was seeing a Mormon girl they were shocked. Feelings between son and parents became strained and when Eli announced he was planning to go to Liverpool in February 1854 to see Emma safely aboard the ship *Windermere* they gave him the ultimatum "Well, if you think more of the Mormons than you do of your own parents, why don't you go and join them?" And so after he had seen her aboard ship and waved goodbye he found himself at a personal crossroads. He stayed in Liverpool and listened to the missionaries and was finally baptised and confirmed a member of the Church. Concerned by the effects his conversion would have upon his parent's trade back in Preston Candover, he booked passage along with 392 other Mormons on the ship *John M Wood* which was to set sail for New Orleans on 12 March 1854.

By the 26 April he had arrived in America, having been sick from the journey but making a steady recovery - several had died from cholera. He then continued his journey up the Missouri River where he landed and then camped until July on the McGee camping grounds in Kansas. Being anxious to find the Daniel Garn Company that had travelled over on the ship *Windermere*, he joined a wagon train under the direction of Daniel Caivres and William Carter, driving one of the wagons. Anxiety

and concern were rife as there had been warnings of Indians being on the warpath with soldiers killed at Fort Laramie, so the wagon train had to proceed with caution. Another train under Captain Horace Eldridge had been attacked by Indians at Ash Hollow, where cattle had been stampeded off, leaving wagons and families stranded. Eli assisted in rescuing the survivors and eventually all made it to Salt Lake Valley in October 1854. There Eli discovered that the Daniel Garn Company had arrived a few days before, but Maria had been the only Brooks sister to survive the journey. A young child had contracted smallpox onboard ship and the disease had spread rapidly. Emma and her other sister Fanny had been buried at sea, - so his hope of a happy reunion with Emma had become an empty dream and he was forced to put his attentions to earning a living in a foreign land.

However, Eli kept his acquaintance with Maria Brooks and subsequently married her in 1855. During the same year he was ordained a 'Seventy' in one of the Mormon 'Quorums'. Events took a further turn when in 1856 his sister Elizabeth and her four children arrived in Salt Lake City. She had been converted and her husband consented for the family to emigrate. Having joined the ill-fated Willie Martin Hand Cart company they had dallied before setting across the plains, leaving it too late in the season. Winter had set in and problems beset the crudely made carts, further delaying their journey. The food supply dwindled and was finally cut down to a starvation diet. Weakness from lack of food and the heavy snow made it impossible to make more than a mile or two a day. Death became a familiar face to all and Joseph, her husband, became too weak to pull the hand cart. Their children's feet became frozen and as they began to decay Elizabeth would have to cut the decayed part off with her scissors. Joseph died, leaving Elizabeth to struggle on alone and by the time she arrived in Salt Lake her feet were so frozen she could hardly walk; her pitiful condition moving Eli to tears.

Eli continued to play an active part in the church, organising a choir and playing in a band. During a huge celebration to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the pioneers entering Salt Lake Valley he was performing at Big Cottonwood Canyon when the United States Army were ordered to attack the Mormons, believing they were staging a rebellion against the American people. A period of unrest followed, with skirmishes between the army and Mormons leading to the plunder and destruction of much Mormon property. In December 1862 Eli's wife Maria gave birth to their fourth son, but she developed 'milk fever' and died shortly after. His Bishop came to his assistance, bringing a young 19 year old English convert Annie to care for the children and the house, but after two weeks she felt she should leave as the neighbours were gossiping about their living together in the same house. Eli felt duty bound to marry her and by the end of January they were married with the Bishop's blessing.

Annie and Eli had children of their own and in time Annie's younger sister Eleanor came to live with them helping with the house work. After a couple of years Eli took Eleanor as his second wife in plural marriage, she being about 22 and he by this time being 46. Annie, being pregnant, was hurt and upset, but she hid her feelings and gave her consent for the two to marry. Alone in her room on their wedding night, Annie was anguished and distraught but determined to stick to her faith. Eli was wise in his treatment of them and tried to give no cause for jealousy, but the situation was far from smooth and in the end he bought Eleanor a home of her own. In his later life Eli was called to be a Bishop - a position he served for 10 years. By 1890 plural marriage was revoked and the men were told to provide for all wives but to choose one to live with and so Eli chose Annie. On his 71st birthday he received the gift of a painting of his home in Preston Candover, which he treasured for the rest of his life until his death in 1908. He was survived by 14 children, 42 grandchildren and a great grandchild and two wives, with one wife and six children lost along the way. He is still revered as one of the early pioneers in Utah.

And in Preston Candover? Life settled fairly back to normal after the wave of Mormon conversions had run its course. William Whitear took over the forge from Eli's father, John, who remained heartbroken by the absence of his son. The blacksmithy stayed in the family until around the time of the First World War, when another round of social upheaval was to play its part, together with the advent of the motor car, and by around 1920 the forge itself had been abandoned. By a twist of fate, I was able to spend some of my childhood there; my mother's best friend became a godmother to me and by coincidence her family then owned the cottage. I well remember tapping on the old piano in

the tiny parlour. Some years later Eli's 'many greats' granddaughter came over from the States to visit and we took her to the forge ,which still stood behind the cottage. It had been left just as it was the day the last hammer was laid down; the anvil still standing amongst the ashes of the fire, rows upon rows of tools with years of dust and webs accumulated over them ...and at home I have a horseshoe, old and rusted, but a most treasured possession.

BASINGSTOKE AND ANDOVER

Archaeological links

Barbara Applin

Our 'opposite number', the Andover History & Archaeology Society, hold a Dacre Memorial Lecture each year. Max Dacre was indeed an amateur archaeologist, but he worked in a truly professional way and the excavations he led in and around Andover, both rescue and research-based, were exemplars for others to follow. There was a great variety of sites, from Bronze Age barrows and an urnfield to a Roman crossroads site and Anglo-Saxon cemeteries. This year the lecture was by Nick Stoodley on The Dacre Archive, which he has been working on for some time, leading to a promised publication and suggestions for further work, both desk-based and in the field.

Bob, Mary Oliver and I have fond memories of Max and his wife, Peggy, who not only took part in the digs but used to welcome visitors and helpers on site with her delicious cakes. We were glad to attend this year's lecture and to be reminded of the work done by Max and the Andover society. A particular favourite of mine was the Kalis Corner Bronze Age urnfield, where Richard Warmington meticulously drew not only every urn but every flint in the 'pavement' surrounding them. The urns, mainly containing cremations, were surprisingly varied, some buried the right way up, some upside-down and some almost flattened.

Nick Stoodley explained to anyone who didn't know the history of the society that it had been formed when Andover's Spine Road was put in. Andover suffered like Basingstoke from drastic expansion for 'London overspill' in the 1960s, and 'a young lady from Basingstoke's Willis Museum was sent to run a rescue dig on the Spine road - roughly where the Twinings Roundabout is today. The volunteers who took part were the basis of the Andover History & Archaeology Society which Max then led so brilliantly in their fieldwork.

At question time Mary was able to put up her hand, get up and say, 'I was that young lady from the Willis Museum'! She tells me that as they were digging, desperate against time, the earth-moving machines had already started work not far away. At one point she sat back on her heels and said 'I wish those machines would break down and give us more time.' And one by one they did!

Unfortunately Mary was never able to bring off the same coup on Basingstoke sites.

GOOD NEWS!

*By the time this Newsletter reaches you,
the Willis Museum will have re-opened.*

CALENDAR

11-29 May	Excavations at Basing House	BAHS
Wed 13 May	AGM and OGS Crawford Lecture ENGLISH HOUSES 1300-1800: VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE AND SOCIAL LIFE Prof Matthew Johnson, 7.30 pm Peter Symonds College, Winchester	HFC
Thurs 21 May	A HISTORY OF PUNCH AND JUDY Alix Booth	FWM
Sun 24 May	Stores Sunday (see page 6)	BAHS
Sat 30 May	Landscape Section, visit to Alton, led by Tony Cross	HFC
Thurs 11 June	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	BAHS
Sat 13 June	Historic Buildings Section, visit to Titchfield and Section AGM	HFC
Thurs 18 June	THE QUEEN'S BODYGUARD OF THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD John Hook RVM	FWM
Sat 20 June	Hampshire Historic Churches Trust: Visits (see page 4)	
Sun 21 June	Stores Sunday (see page 6)	BAHS
27/28 June	Meet a Tudor Servant, Basing House, from 2 pm	
July - tbc	Meet a Georgian Sailor, Basing House, from 2 pm	
Sat 25 July	Local History Section, visit to Boarhunt & Southwick churches and Southwick Park	HFC
Thurs 30 July	Visit to Silchester (see page 2)	BAHS
August - tbc	Meet an English Civil War soldier, Basing House, from 2 pm	
10-13 th Sep	Heritage Open Days, Basing House	
Sat 12 Sept	Archaeology Section, visit to WARG excavation at St Cross, Winchester, 6.30 pm	HFC
Sun 13 Sept	Heritage Open Day, Holy Ghost Cemetery (see page 4)	

BAHS **Our Society, 7.30 pm at Church Cottage**

Stores Sunday 10-5, Archaeology stores, HCMAS Headquarters. Chilcomb House, Bar End,
Winchester (Alan Jacobs 01962 826738 alan.jacobs@hants.gov.uk)

FWM Friends of the Willis Museum, at the Willis Museum, 7.30 pm

HFC Hampshire Field Club

BAHS Secretary: Ginny Pringle gabby@powntleycopse.co.uk 01420 550028.

Website: <http://www.bahsoc.org.uk>

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