

Gloucestershire Local History Newsletter

Spring 2011



Avon Local History & Archaeology Local History Day, Saturday, 19 March 2011

This will be held, in conjunction with UWE's Regional History Centre, at the University of the West of England's St Matthias Campus in Fishponds. Its theme is 'Underground Avon', and it will include sessions on vaults & cellars, mines & quarries, and burials & cemeteries. Admission is £10 (£8 ALHA members and concessions): tickets should be booked in advance by contacting Mr W. Evans, 5 Parry's Grove, Bristol BS9 1TT.

Committee for Archaeology in Gloucestershire Annual Symposium, Saturday, 26 March 2011

This year's symposium will be held at the Gambier Parry Hall, Highnam, and will focus on recent excavations and new perspectives on Gloucestershire's archaeology, with sessions on recent work in Cheltenham, the Cotswolds and the Forest of Dean. The cost of the day is £8, plus £4 if a sandwich lunch is required. Further details and a booking form may be found on the Archaeology Service section of the County Council's website (www.gloucestershire.gov.org) or from the CAG Secretary, Princess Royal Cottage, Butterow West, Stroud GL5 3UA (01453 759516).

Local History Committee Regional Meeting, Fairford, Saturday, 2 July 2011

A booking form for this year's Regional Meeting, which is to be hosted by the Fairford History Society, is included with the February 2011 mailing – the day promises to be a particularly varied and interesting one, and will include the chance to see the town's splendid new Community Centre, and to celebrate the conservation of the church's famous late medieval glass, all of which has now been returned to the church. For more details about the Society and its activities, including its impressive series of monographs and occasional papers (the most recent of which is Chris Hobson's study of Alexander Ready, a prominent 18th-century Fairford lawyer), take a look at www.fairfordhistory.org.uk.

Local History Afternoon, Gloucester, Saturday, 1 October 2011

The theme of this year's Local History Afternoon, to be held, as usual, at Sir Thomas Rich's School in Gloucester, will be "Gloucestershire Communities in the Second World War". Further details will be included in the May 2011 mailing.

Bryan Jerrard Award 2011

As usual, the Local History Afternoon will include the results of the annual Bryan Jerrard Award for the best article in a local history society publication. A number of bulletins and journals have already been submitted, so if your Society has an annual publication, please make sure that Naomi at GRCC has a copy by the end of July, so that judging may begin!

Gloucestershire County History Trust

At a recent meeting of the Trustees it was decided that, subject to funds being available, a part-time editor would be employed by the end of 2011 to complete the remaining five parishes of the VCH Gloucestershire Volume XIII. They are Ashleworth, Hartpury, Maisemore, Norton and Twyning, and there will be opportunities for volunteers to carry out research into these parishes. Thanks to the many generous donors, over £11,000 has been raised so far, plus some £4,500 in standing orders. As around £25,000 per annum will be required to employ a part-time editor, the Trust still needs a further £10,000 this year to proceed with the plan, and the Trustees are exploring various grant-giving bodies and possible sponsors to make up the shortfall. The Trust's long-term aim is to employ a full-time editor and to begin work on other areas of the county not yet covered by the Victoria County History.

Recent Publications from local societies

In addition to their annual bulletins or journals, a number of local societies have published books during the past year. As well as the Fairford History Society's most recent monograph, these include *Rebuilding Blockley* (covering the local work of retired surveyor Oliver Dicks), by Robert Willott (Blockley Heritage Society); *Mr Harrison is Missing. The Campden Wonder – a true story?*, by Jill Wilson (Campden & District Historical & Archaeological Society), and *History of Tewkesbury Municipal Cemetery*, by Anthony Skelsey with Mike English (Tewkesbury Historical Society). If your Society has produced a book that we might have missed, please let Naomi at GRCC know, and we will give it a plug in a future Newsletter!

Stroudwater Textiles Trust CD-ROM

In partnership with Gloucestershire Archives, The Trust has recently produced a CD-ROM for schools, entitled *Discover...Victorian families at the mill*, which uses archives and photographs to tell the story of two Victorian families - one rich, one poor - who were involved in making wool at Dunkirk Mill, Nailsworth - the Playnes, who owned the mill, and the Pearces, who worked for them. To find out more about the work of the Trust, which also organises a number of textile-based activity sessions and resource boxes for schools, take a look at www.stroud-textile.org.uk.

Gloucester Cathedral Study Days

During 2011, as well as offering study days and tours for groups (including local history societies), the Cathedral is organising a number of study days for which individual tickets may be purchased; each day runs from 10.00am to 3.45pm and costs £20, including coffee and lunch. Topics for 2011 are - the lives of the medieval monks (12 May and 11 August), the Cathedral's stained glass (5 May and 6 October), and church monuments (19 April and 14 September). There is also a morning session on the Cathedral's Arts & Crafts treasures (7 March), for which the charge is £12, to include coffee. Further information and tickets are available from Christine Turton at the Cathedral Office (christine@gloucestercathedral.org.uk).

Local history Committee Contacts

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