

HIGHWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

January 2010 Meeting Newsletter

Hello again and Happy New Year to you all!

As always, first of all, a reminder of our programme of events for the remainder of this season:

- *January 25 2010 - Trades and Occupations of North Wiltshire by Mike Stone of Chippenham Museum*
- *February 22 - Welsh Love Spoons by Bob Browning*
- *March 29 - Ladies and the Vote by Paul Booy*
- *April 26 - History of Wiltshire Police by Paul Sample*

All the meetings are on Mondays and will start at 7.30pm.

Wanted! (1)

Do you know of any ghost stories relating to Highworth or the surrounding areas? If so, we'd love to hear them and have them included in the Spooky Site on our website. Please contact any committee member to share your story.

Wanted! (2)

We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and received lots of lovely gifts. However, if you received any gifts that weren't... well, weren't quite you... we'd be extremely grateful if you'd care to donate them for raffle prizes. We're sure that someone else would really appreciate them.

Did You Know... ?

... that Isambard Kingdom Brunel is coming to Highworth in May? As part of the Highworth Year of Culture, "The First Great Engineer" explains the building of the first Tunnel under the Thames and how it almost claimed his life while not yet 21. He explains the building of Suspension Bridges and Railways and especially the world's first elliptical brick bridge at Maidenhead. He talks of his three great ships but throughout his delivery shows with humour and trickery his skill as an amateur conjurer.

That he achieved so much in one lifetime is remarkable, for he truly did change our ideas of just what engineers with dreams and determination are capable of. He also explains why so many ideas of the Industrial Revolution happened in Britain.

Date: Friday May 7th

Venue: Highworth Warneford School

Starting Time: 7.30pm

Ticket price: £8 adults £4 juniors (available soon - we'll keep you informed!)

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Another event happening in the Highworth Year of Culture is An Evening with WG Grace on Friday 12th March at 7.30pm at St Michael's Hall. The ticket price will be £8 to include a fish and chip supper and will be available from the Lighthouse Bookshop shortly.

Also, look out for us in the Council Rooms on Saturday 13th February. We're having a coffee morning and, as it's near Shrove Tuesday, hope to be offering pancakes!

Other Historical Society Events Happening Locally in February

If you are interested in attending any of these events, please contact us for further details:

1st - "Victorian Inventions" - J Girvan - Atworth History Group

1st - "The Bankes Family of Kingston Lacey" - James Grasby - Warminster History Society

2nd - "Nurses in Victorian Salisbury" - Jane Howells - Redlynch Local History Society

10th - "Publicans - Saints and Sinners (100 Years of Pubs/Landlords in Pewsey)" - Richard Giles - Pewsey Vale History Society

11th - "Medieval Women - The church, Witchcraft and Medecine" - Glenys Armstrong - Wootton Bassett Historical Society

17th - "The People in the Church" - Sheila Passmore - Chiseldon Local History Group

18th - "Isambard Kingdom Brunel" - John Salvat (Bradford-on-Avon) - The Historical Association (W Wilts Branch)

18th - "History of General Practice" - Doctor Claydon - Whiteparish History Group

That's it for this month. As always, we're keen for you to be happy with the Society and for you to be as involved as you want to be. If you have any suggestions for us, for the meetings, the website, the newsletter or anything else, please do let us know.

Don't forget to check our fantastic website www.highworthhistoricalsociety.org.uk for news and updates over the season. If you would like to receive this newsletter by e-mail in future (and save trees and recycling), please contact Kay Brown on kay.brown23@btinternet.com to be included on our list.