

HIGHWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

May 2010 Newsletter

Hello again!

We'll start with some dates for your diaries with a preview of next season's programme:

- ***September 27 – Highworth Miscellany by Bryan Lawton at our AGM***
- ***October 25 – Life in the Polish Camp at Fairford by Alice Christofides***
- ***November 29 - Dying for Glory – The Adventures of Five Cotswold Brothers by Mike Boyes***
- ***December 13 – Magic Lantern Show by Patrick Furley***

The meetings are on Mondays and will start at 7.30pm.

We hope you enjoyed the Medieval May Day Market and Isambard Kingdom Brunel – we certainly did! Photos of the Medieval May Day Market will be on display at the AGM in September. For your continued enjoyment, we have more events coming up. And, as we do not have a meeting before all of these take place, if you know of any other HHS members who do not have access to e-mail, please spread the word about the following events:

Richard Jefferies House and Museum – Sunday 6th June

On Sunday 6 June, we are running another trip to the Richard Jefferies House and Museum. The house is being opened especially for us for a private tour at 11am and will include a talk by Jean Saunders. Of particular interest will be a newly discovered film of Swindon in 1948 at a Richard Jefferies celebration. Why not bring a picnic lunch and make a day of it! The cost is £2.50 per adult and is free for children. No need to book – just turn up on the day.

Swindon at War – A Weekend of Discovery – Swindon Central Library – 5th and 6th June

As you know, along with other local history societies, we have a display at the Swindon at War event on 5th (9.30am-4pm) and 6th June (11am-3pm) at the Central Library. Entry is free and the event is bound to be fascinating. It would be great to see you there.

Guided Tour of Inigo House, High Street, Highworth – Tuesday 15th June at 7.15pm

Claire and Peter Burke have kindly invited members of Highworth Historical Society to their home, Inigo House, for a guided tour of the house and garden. Demand for this is sure to be high and places are limited, so please register your interest as soon as possible with Gillian Miller on 762599 or at millerwrde@homecall.co.uk

Warneford School Summer Fayre – Saturday 26th June

We'd like to have a table at the Warneford's Summer Fayre to promote the Society and give out information to anyone who is interested. However, none of the committee members are available on that day to man (or woman!) the table. Might you be able to help with this? If you are willing and able, we'd be extremely grateful! Please contact Jo Clark on 763863 or jclark@homecall.co.uk

Auxiliary Celebration Event at Coleshill on 4 July 10.30am to 4pm. Entry £1.

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Coleshill was the GHQ for Auxiliary training during the Second World War. 2010 is the 70th anniversary of the Auxiliary Units commencing their training at Coleshill. These were civilian men, in reserve occupation, who were chosen to go underground in the event of a German invasion and occupation. They were trained in the art of unarmed combat, weaponry and explosives. They were supplied equipment far advanced of that given to the regular army, and with an underground secret Operational Base. They intended to create havoc behind the lines and collect invaluable information. Their life expectancy was 10 – 14 days.

Re-enactors will demonstrate training techniques and exhibit artefacts in the Clock House gardens. The Coleshill Auxiliary Research Team (CART) will give timetabled talks in the Granary. Both CART and Parham Museum will exhibit artefacts and be available for questions and further information. Guides will show visitors the key places and remnants from the period; Coleshill's training Operational Base, the Guard House, Stable Yard and Radio Bases. Period catering will be available in a street party in the Carpenters Yard. The National Trust welcomes families, and relatives of Auxiliaries to this exciting one off event. For further information contact Liza Dibble on 01793 762209.

Education Records of Highworth

On the morning of Saturday 30th October at the United Reform Church in Highworth, Claire Skinner will be talking about the education records of Highworth. More details to follow in later newsletters.

Other Historical Society Events Happening Locally in June

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

June 1st – Town Walk Around Salisbury with City Guide – Redlynch and District Local History Society

10th – Evening Walk Around Lacock – Bob Clarke – Wootton Bassett Local History Society

17th - “A New Look at the Vikings” – Nick Griffiths – Dinton Historical Society

18th – “Corsham and Geology” – Dr Eric Robinson – Corsham Civic Society

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 lectures, the website, the newsletter or anything else, please do let us know.

Don't forget to check our fantastic website www.highworthhistoricalsociety.co.uk for photos, 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 mailing list.