

COLYTON PARISH HISTORY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER - MAY 2016

Summer is on its way with lots of exciting things happening here in June.

1. Heraldic Market - Town Hall, Colyton



A colourful Heraldic Market will be held at Colyton Town Hall on Wednesday, 1 June to launch an annual display of heraldic banners around the town. Colyton's Town Crier will assemble the townsfolk and the Market will be officially opened by Colin Pady, a Member of the Chamber of Feoffees at 10.30am. The Town Hall will be decorated and feature craft and food stalls and there will also be a display of Elizabethan costumes from Colyton Theatre Group, and an exhibition of rare and historic artefacts and records to commemorate the foundation of the Chamber of Feoffees in 1546 - a celebration of 470 years of unbroken service to the community.

The display of the hand painted banners from buildings in Market Place and around the town, depict the heraldic coats of arms of those families associated with Colyton's colourful historic past.

There will be an accompanying booklet available for sale from the Heritage Centre and The Little Shop. Morning coffee, light lunches and cream teas available in Town Hall 10.00am to 4.00pm.

2. Legacy to Landscape - programme of events in June

Wednesday 1 June, 2pm, Riverside Discovery Stroll, Colyton.

Half term family fun strolling alongside the river Coly with splashing tales from the river bank. Meet at Chantry Bridge, King Street, SY 245 942. Free. Legacy to Landscape Project, email, legacytolandscape@gmail.com; 01297 489741

Wednesday 8 June, 6.30-8.30pm, Wild about orchids, Lucehayne Meadows, Widworthy. Join local botanists, Phil Wilson and Marian Reed to see splendid displays of wild orchids and other wild flowers growing in these flower rich hay meadows. Free. Booking essential. Legacy to Landscape Project, email, legacytolandscape@gmail.com; 01297 489741

Saturday 11 June, 10-3 pm, Plants of East Devon's Ancient Grasslands, Pennyhayes Farm, Umborne. An opportunity to identify and enjoy the wildflowers of this rare habitat with Phil Wilson and Marian Reed farmer ecologists and owners of Pennyhayes Farm. £5 donation, Devon Wildlife Trust. Booking essential, Christina Bows 01297 23822

Wednesday 22 June, 2pm, Wild about butterflies, bees and other pollinators, Lucehayne Meadows, Widworthy. Explore spectacular hay meadows alive with insects busy pollinating wild flowers, with local insect expert Martin Drake. Free. Booking essential. Legacy to Landscape Project, legacytolandscape@gmail.com; 01297 489741.



What is the Legacy to Landscape - Linking King John's Oak to the future - Project?

Drawing on a 1780's map of the Shute estate, this innovative community based heritage project - Legacy to Landscape - aims to reveal the rich heritage of the hidden landscape of the Colyton and Shute area , which has remained virtually unchanged for centuries and contains a medieval deer park, ancient trees and rare wildflowers. It was once covered in orchards.

Enthusiastic volunteers of all ages are needed to help piece together this historic jigsaw puzzle. Tasks range from investigating old maps, searching archives, and other historical documents and books, conducting and leading wildlife surveys, planting seedlings taken from the 800 year old King John Oak and just enjoying the local landscape and wildlife . Also if you have memories of the landscape from years ago we would like to capture those stories too. Please do get in touch if you would like to get involved. A series of history talks, organised walks and other activities are also planned over the coming months.

If you would like to get involved in the project , please contact:

Pete Youngman, 01404 310012, pete.youngman@eastdevonaonb.org.uk;

For full events programme and bookings: Ruth Worsley, Legacy to Landscape Project Coordinator : legacytolandscape@gmail.com;

www.eastdevonaonb.org.uk

Legacy to Landscape is funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund with support from the East Devon AONB Partnership, Devon Wildlife Trust and the Axe Vale and District Conservation Society.

Legacy to Landscape History events:

Medieval landscapes of Devon - Wednesday 6 July, 7pm-9pm

Archaeologist Dr Richard Sandover takes us back in time to the Domesday Book, to look at what the historic landscape may have been like then, and offers some clues as to how we can recreate this picture ourselves, with just a few readily available sources. No booking required. Venue: *Colyford Memorial Hall, Swan Hill Rd, Colyford, EX24 6QJ*

Landscape detectives - *Wednesday 10 August, 2pm-4pm*

Short relaxed, gate leaning amble to see clues in this marvellous landscape that reveal the history of the Pole Estate in Colyton parish. Free. No booking required. Meeting point: *SY 244 934 , Hill Head Picnic Site, Colyton*

Historic Map Detectives - *Wednesday 14 September, 10.30-3pm*

Historic landscape experts Emma Rouse and Philippe Planel will provide a hands on session on the use of a range of historic maps in providing clues to the hidden past of our landscape. Followed by a chance to go out into the field to look for clues of how the landscape has evolved and change over time. Free. Booking essential, legacytolandscape@gmail.com or 01404 310012. Peace Memorial playing fields pavilion, Coly Road, Colyton, EX24 6PU

Colyford Goose Fayre - *Saturday 24 September*

Visit the Legacy to Landscape stall to find out more about the 'Unearthing the hidden history of the local landscape' aspect of the project.

Admission by £3 programme which can be bought from Colyton businesses including post office, pharmacy and pubs. Under 14s free. Medieval procession gathers at 2pm, on *green, opposite Elmwood Nursing home Swan Hill Rd, Colyford, Colyton EX24 6QJ* on A3052 and proceeds down Seaton Road to Fayre ground at Springfields. Parking adjacent to Springfields.

Leaf back in time - *Holyford Woods - Wednesday 12 October, 2pm-4pm*

Travel back in time to hear Colin Pady's remarkable tall tree tales and the wood's 'seedy and shady' past on a history trek in Holyford Woods.

Free. No booking required. Meeting point: *Seaton Tower Layby, Seaton Down Hill, EX12 2TH*

Is King John's Oak a living witness to one of the most notorious Kings in English History? - *Friday 18 November, 7p -9pm*

This mighty oak, and two other named historic oaks in Woodend Park at Shute have looked down over the Umborne Valley for centuries. How did they get their names? What can these living trees tell us about the landscape of past times and how do we nurture what this legacy into the future?

Free. No booking required. Venue - *Feoffees Town Hall, Market Place, Colyton, EX24 6JR.*

3. Colyton Parish History Project - Digitizer

The HLF funded digitizer is being installed this month and training will then be given to volunteers in preparation for starting work on digitizing and preserving the Chamber of Feoffees historic records.

4. Wanted - Help with Research Project into child evacuees who attended Colyton Schools

Penny Gall who is researching Colyton schools for the Parish history project is seeking photos or information particularly about World War II child evacuees. She is seeking to expand on the details available in *Colyton at War* by Geoff Elliott . Penny is aware that St Luke's School from Southwark was based in the Town Hall, but individual children were also sent here and a children's home from Exeter lived for a time at Ruffold House. Where were they at school? Does anyone know of any photos of these children? If you , or anyone you know, has any information about the evacuees' school experience in Colyton please get in touch with Penny. Her email address is: penny.gall@btinternet.com

5. Wanted - Photos of Local Celebrations to mark the Queen's Coronation in 1953

Do you have any family photos of events in Colyton or Colyford to celebrate the Queen's Coronation in 1953? If so would you be prepared to lend them to CPHS? Please let us know in the Heritage Centre if you do.

6. Wanted - replacement pc monitor for Heritage Centre

Do you have a spare pc monitor (screen)? Would you be prepared to donate it to a worthy cause? The old one in the Heritage Centre has finally stopped working. We have another one on temporary loan but this has to be returned shortly. If you do have a spare monitor which is gathering dust please contact Roger Hutton direct at roger.hutton1@btopenworld.com or leave a message in the Heritage Centre and we will arrange collection.

7. Future CPHS Meetings

The next meeting will be on Wednesday **28 September 2016 at 7.30 pm** at Colyton Town Hall when East Devon Metal Detecting Club will give a presentation on *Metal Detecting and the Portable Antiquities Scheme*.

8. Annual Membership Fees

If any of you haven't paid your membership fees for 2016 yet please remember to bring them to the next meeting. Subscription rates are unchanged at £5 single or £8 per couple and can be paid at the next meeting or posted to the Membership Secretary:

Glennis Ashbolt, Tritchayne, Colyton, Devon EX24 6SP.

Sarah Charman

Editor