

## COLYTON PARISH HISTORY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER 19 November 2018

Lots to report on this month: A very successful *Colyton's War* exhibition, fascinating discoveries, and an exciting new talk and events programme for 2019.

Sarah Charman Editor

### 1. News

#### a) *Colyton's War*

The *Colyton's War* event, organised over four days at the beginning of November by CPHS, proved a great success with over 730 visitors coming to St Andrew's Church to study the displays and listen to talks on Devon in the First World War, agriculture and Bantam soldiers..



Visitors commented that they found the exhibition very moving, informative and well designed and presented. Some visitors returned each day amazed, they said, at the depth and variety of the research undertaken by our volunteers. Others were delighted to discover references to members of their own family in the exhibition or a description of how their home was used during the War. It was indeed a community wide achievement with contributions by local schools and other community groups and with a wide range of artefacts and personal family mementos made available for display at the event by individual Colytonians.

Copies of the booklet on *Colyton's War* – price £3 - will be available for purchase in the Heritage Centre during the Christmas Fayre on Wednesday 5 December.

## **b) The Beed Family from Colyton**

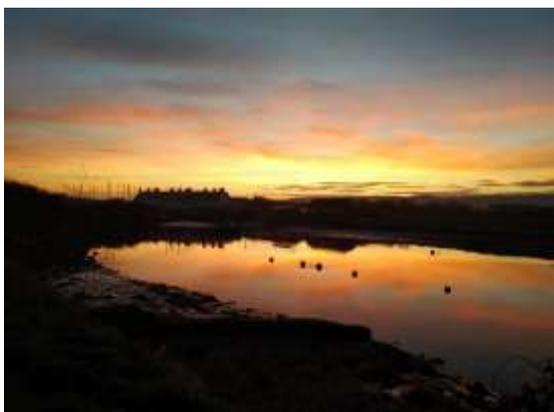
Members of the Beed family from New South Wales, Australia who visited Colyton earlier in the summer were delighted to track down, with the assistance of History Society volunteers, some of the local haunts of their ancestors including Thomas Beed who was a tanner and lived at Chantry Cottage.



### *Henry Beed 1839-1903, Founder of the Beed Australia Dynasty*

Henry was the younger son of Thomas and Anne Beed of Colyton. His elder brother John had also emigrated to the US in the mid C19th settling in the mid-West in the 1850s where they became very successful farmers and businessmen and founded an American branch of the family around Hampton, Iowa.

## **c) Medieval wreck buried in silt in the Axe – placed on Historic England Heritage ‘at risk’ list**



Axe river looking south towards the two bridges



Axe river just north of the 2 bridges

A wreck discovered near the mouth of the River Axe, found to be a carvel-built vessel of probable medieval date and possibly visible on aerial photographs as a low partially submerged structure. First discovered back in 2001 this has now been placed on an at risk list by <https://historicensland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1433819>

Despite the effects of environmental decay, a substantial portion of the lower hull survives and it retains a number of characteristic features of medieval ships such as the crook'd floor (the lowermost framing members at the bottom of the vessel). The wreck has considerable potential for providing insight into late medieval / post-medieval vessel construction materials and techniques and for coastal trade during this period. It is also considered likely for there to be excellent potential for the survival of cargo residues: for example, coal found in the bilge may provide evidence of former cargo, as Somerset was exporting coal to France in the medieval period for use in pottery, salt and lime production industries.

## **2. 2019 CPHS Talks Programme**

Click the Programme button on the menu to see our exciting CPHS 2019 programme of talks and events.

## **3. Heritage Centre**

The Heritage Centre is now closed for the winter. Once again in 2018 we had a **record number of some 2566 visitors** to the Centre from all over the world and we look forward to welcoming more in 2019.

The Centre will be open again for **Colyton Christmas Fayre on Wednesday 5 December.**

The Heritage Centre will open for the 2019 season from **1 April to 26 October 2019.**

## **4. Other organisations' events**

### **a) Devonshire Association - Talks programme November to December 2018**

**Wildlife in Devon farmsteads and houses** - at **2:30 pm on Wednesday 21 November** - **Patrick Dillon**, Emeritus Professor at the University of Exeter, is a cultural ecologist interested in how people shape, and are shaped by, the environments in which they live and the animals they share them with. Venue - the Pavilion, Peace Memorial Playing Fields, Colyton Road, Colyton EX24 5PU

**Carthorses to Computers** – at **2.30 pm on Wednesday 19 December** – **Colin Pady** will give an illustrated talk on the incredible development of farming in East Devon in the Twentieth century. Venue - at the Pavilion, Peace Memorial Playing Fields, Colyton Road, Colyton EX24 5PU.