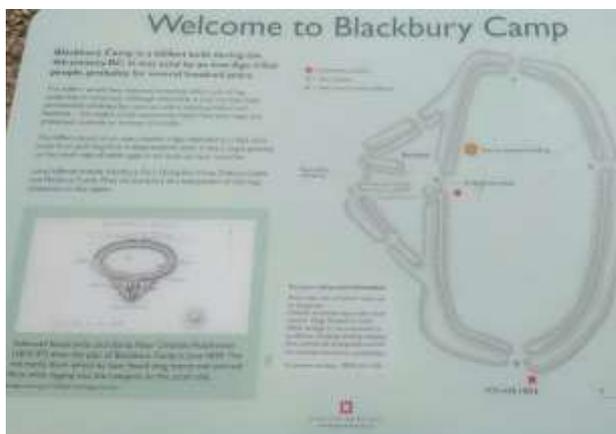


COLYTON PARISH HISTORY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER 17 April 2019

Happy Easter everyone. A bumper crop of announcements this month.

Do you have family or visitors coming to stay? Looking for somewhere local to take them? Why not go for a walk around atmospheric Blackbury Camp – an iron age hillfort where the air hangs heavy with ancient mysteries and at this time of year the scent of bluebells fills the air.

Sarah Charman, Editor

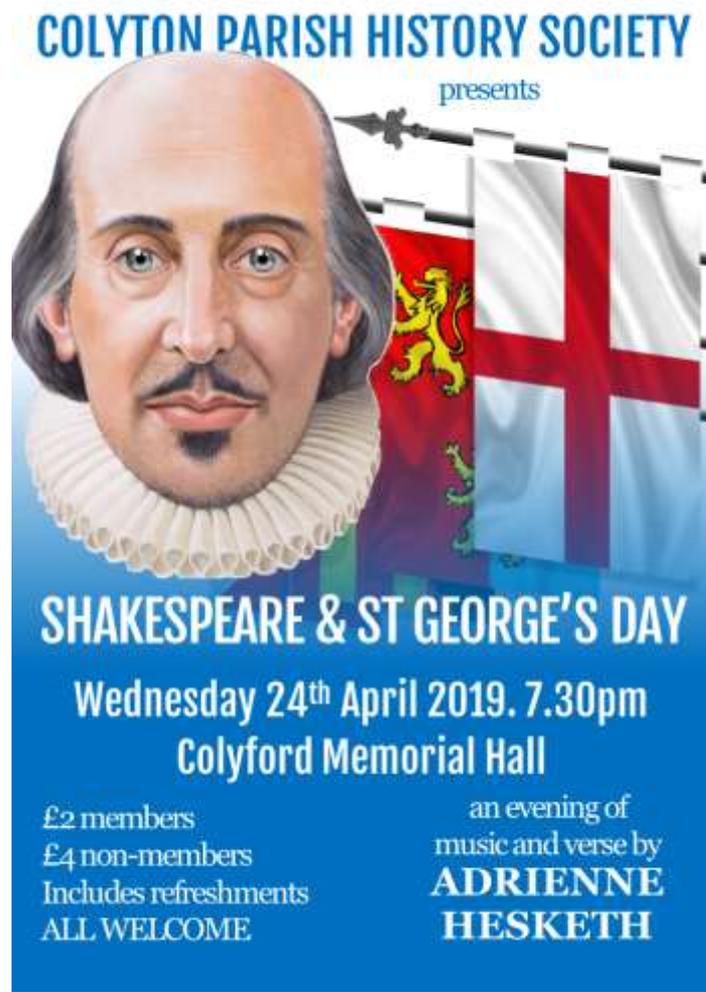


1. News

- a) **St George's Day and Shakespeare: An evening of music and verse**
on **Wednesday 24 April at 7.30 pm at Colyford Memorial Hall**
£2 members, £4 non-members. Includes refreshments. All welcome

Do come - and bring your friends along too - for a special evening of music, poetry and Shakespeare, presented by celebrated Devon musician and speaker, Adrienne Hesketh.

Gentlemen – we need your help. Please could a couple of you kindly come along at 7.00 pm and assist with rolling the piano into the Hall. Please let Jacquie McCullough know if you are able to help with this (01297 552626.)



b) **Exciting historic finds** – As promised in last month's Newsletter, further information about some remarkable finds which were unearthed during a recent metal detecting rally near to Colyton.

Among the finds were Scottish Charles I and James I coins. It is thought that these were possibly from the Civil War era. The Royalists were garrisoned at Stedcombe in Axmouth, while the Parliamentarians were based around Colcombe and Colyton.

The field where the discovery of these coins was made, could possibly have been used as a camp site by the Royalists. Several musket balls from that era were also uncovered in the same field and surrounding fields.

The other significant coin find was a silver Roman siliqua but no other Roman finds from the site as yet.

Charles I half groat - Crown Mintmark 1635-6

Gold posy ring (c17th)



There was also a lovely gold posy ring unearthed which is almost certainly 17th century so the same era as the Charles 1st coins which all came out of the same field.

Interestingly, coins from Edward 1st (1272-1307) and some Elizabeth 1 (1558-1603) were also found.

Small Medieval buckle 1250-1400



Elizabeth 1 Groat – second issue Martlet Mintmark 1560-1



c) East Devon Floods Remembered

Last month's exhibition was a great success with over 500 visitors during the course of the event. Some 30 people also went on the guided walking tour led by Chairman Marian Sydenham and EA representative Chris Khan during the afternoon.

Unfortunately when we came to clear up after the exhibition closed we discovered that a couple of the documents from the History Society's display had gone missing. One was an original hand written 'thank you' letter on London House headed paper from Long for flood relief funds and the other was a small 3-4 page hand written

account of flood damage to individual properties in Colyford. This archive is held in the Heritage Centre and 'belongs' to the whole Parish community. It forms part of a valuable local historical resource which is available for everyone to consult and we are happy to share and copy documents for interested parties. If anyone does know what happened to these papers we would be most grateful to get them back. It would be such a shame if we had to restrict access to this material in the future.

2. CPHS Matters_-

a. 2019 talks programme

The CPHS 2019 programme of talks and events will begin again in September

- **Wednesday, 25 September** at 7.30 pm there will be a talk on '**Devon and Dorset Migration in the 1800's**' by **Jane Ferentzi** at Colyton Town Hall
- **Wednesday, 23 October** at 7.30 pm a talk on '**Chard and Its Victorian Heritage**' by **Vince Lee** at Colyford Memorial Hall
- **Wednesday, 27 November** at 7.30 pm there will be a '**Coleridge Evening**' offered by the **Coleridge Society** from Ottery St Mary at Colyton Town Hall.

b. CPHS Guided History Walks



Guided History Walks Of Colyton

'The Most Rebellious Town in Devon'

Every Thursday in 2019 from 7th April - 29th September

Starting at 2pm from the car park - Lasting about an hour regardless of weather - Booking not needed - £3 a head but under 16s are free

A chance to learn what's behind some walls, hear about the 450 year old Chamber of Feoffees and discover things you never knew about the fourth richest town in Devon during the 14c. Saxon, Roman, Civil War - it's seen it all!

Of course there is always a unique tramway ride to include in a day out. Colyton station, where parking is free, is less than fifteen minutes' walk from the town centre

At other times organised guided walks for parties of ten or more can be arranged (not for Thursdays) by telephoning 01297 552514 or 01297 33406

3. Other Organisation's Events

a) Legacy to Landscape –

SPRING INTO THE LANDSCAPE! APRIL - JUNE EVENTS 2019

Following the first 3 year phase of the project, a number of events have now been planned for the summer, alongside projects in the pipeline at Musbury and Colyton Schools. Last month volunteers helped with Little Alpaca's restoration of the ancient Rowlands Orchard and also planted three apple trees. Also mulching and fencing around King John's Oak has taken place.

- i) **Green Lanes and Fine Trees in an ancient landscape walk, nr Colyton Saturday 27 April 10am – 2pm** Join Graham Jones, local tree expert and enthusiast, on an exploration of ancient tracks and byways of the historic Shute Estate. Investigating trees and measuring hedges that have been features of this quiet landscape for centuries. Ground uneven in places. Walking poles/stick recommended. Stout footwear essential. Please bring snack and drink. Free event. No need to book. For further information, Graham Jones, 01297 35725. Parking at Yardbury Hill Road, 1 mile north east of Colyton at junction with Downhayne Brake, Grid Ref 224 962
- ii) **Marvel at Marvellous Moths, Rowlands Orchard, Shute Wednesday 29 May 10 am - 12 noon** Join moth expert Paul Butter, on a moth survey in this historic orchard. After overnight traps will have been set up to attract these mysterious creatures of the night, a chance to get up close and examine them and then release back into the orchard. Rowlands Orchard is an historic orchard dating back to the 17th century, when Courtenay Pole of Shute Barton planted hundreds of fruit trees on his Shute estate. Refreshments available. All ages welcome. Free event. No need to book. Rowlands Orchard, Little Orchard Alpacas, Haddon Road, Shute, EX13 7NX, Grid Ref 256 974
- iii) **Meadow in Midsummer, Bolshayne Farm, Colyton Saturday 1 June 2pm – 3.30 pm** A walk in a spectacular hay meadow at Bolshayne Farm, to enjoy and learn to identify wildflowers including Southern Marsh orchids with expert botanists Phil Wilson and Marian Reed. It's a rare damp meadow so expect to see the once common Ragged Robin in flower along with many traditional grassland species. All ages welcome. Free event. No need to book. Bolshayne Farm, Southleigh Road, Colyton, EX24 6RX, Grid Ref 221 937
- iv) **Orchids Abound Stroll, Lucehayne Meadow, Widworthy Sunday 9 June 2pm – 3.30 pm** Leisurely stroll through centuries old meadow at Lucehayne cottage, enjoying the glorious display of three varieties of orchids. See and hear 'shackle baskets' rattle in a midsummer breeze. It's a local name for Yellow Rattle, a clever plant that suppresses the growth of vigorous grasses ensuring wildflower thrive in UK's most threatened habitat. With expert botanists Phil Wilson and Marian Reed. All ages welcome. Free event. Limited parking / lift shares and offers
– booking essential. legacytolandscape@gmail.com or 01297 489741.

Legacy to Landscape community heritage project celebrates a hidden area of landscape in an area of East Devon, based on the 1781 map of the Pole family estate at Shute. This historic map covers the landscape of the Colyton and Shute area, west of Axminster.

A Series of Talks at the North Devon Record Office

A Programme of Talks at the North Devon Record Office,
Barnstaple - Followed by a Traditional Devon Cream Tea!

Booking is essential, call 01271 318795 or email

northdevon@swheritage.org.uk

North Devon Manorial Records - 9 April 2.00 pm



Join Archivist, Scott Pettitt, to find out about manorial records and their value for local and family historians. This talk will explore the rise and fall of the manorial system, the records it generated, and explain how to locate them.

Find out More - <https://swheritage.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=29dea38439bc2b2ed2ed1c92b&id=41b37fa788&e=65615a2e84>



101 Things You (Probably) Didn't Know About Lundy

18 June 2.00 pm

A Royalist stronghold, a pirate outpost, a potential Prisoner of War camp and the Kingdom of Heaven. Join historical researcher, Laura Fox, on a whistle-stop tour through 101

things you may not know about Lundy Island

[Find out more](#)



Exploring Historic Devon Maps 6 August 2.00 pm

Discover the historic maps of Devon and how they show the changing landscape of the county. Find out about how to use and interpret them for family and local history and how to access various online resources. A selection of local north Devon maps dating back to the eighteenth century will be on display.

<https://swheritage.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=29dea38439bc2b2ed2ed1c92b&id=f727b7d6df&e=65615a2e84>

North Devon Shipwrecks 8 October 2.00 pm

The North Devon coastline is well known for the dangers it presents to shipping. Over the years many a vessel has come to grief and mariners have lost their lives as their ships have floundered upon the treacherous reefs or crashed on to the jagged shores

[Find out more](#)

Visitor Information

Visit us at North Devon Record Office, Barnstaple Library, Tuly Street, Barnstaple, EX31 1EL

Opening Times:

10.00 am – 5.00 pm, Wednesday - Friday

We are closed on Mondays and Tuesdays, public holidays and bank holidays.

[Visit Us](#)