

Colyton Parish History Society Newsletter July 2022

Hope you are enjoying the evens of the summer.

Sarah Charman, Editor

1. News

Successful Monmouth Rebellion commemoration event in Colyton

A fine early summer's day. Monmouth landed at Lyme Regis and marched his supporters north west and through Colyton on his way to Taunton and Sedgemore, garnering more rebel supporters along the way – 105 from Colyton, more than any other town in Devon. Later, after the rebellion failed and Monmouth was defeated, Judge Jeffreys sentenced some of the rebels to death or deportation.





Some of the rebels were commemorated in St Andrew's church in a fascinating exhibition of work done by Colyton Primary Academy who have been studying the Monmouth Rebellion. Great to see these youngsters understand and 'own' the importance of their home town's history. Well done Mrs Mills.



Colyton's commemoration day ended with a drumhead service in the church.



2. CPHS News

A note for your diary - don't forget our programme of talks for 2022 begin again in September with a presentation by Dr Todd Gray on Slavery in Devon at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 28 September 2022.

3. Items you may have missed

4.

a) Meeting of the Mayflowers:



The Mayflower Autonomous Ship is guided next to a replica of the original Mayflower off Massachusetts (Image: AP/Charles Krupa)

A crewless robotic boat retracing the 1620 sea voyage of the Mayflower has finally landed near Plymouth Rock in America.

The £1m robotic ship set sail from Plymouth at the end of April and has crossed the Atlantic.

The vessel, with no captain or crew on board, was originally planned to arrive in Massachusetts in the USA. But she was rerouted to Halifax in Canada due to computer and electrical issues about 1,600 kilometres west of the Azores.

Having docked in Halifax harbour, she has now finally made her way to Plymouth in America.

The sleek Mayflower Autonomous Ship met with an escort boat as it approached the Massachusetts shoreline last Thursday, more than 400 years after its namesake's historic journey from England. The Mayflower was towed into Plymouth Harbour, under U.S. Coast Guard rules for crewless vessels, and docked near a replica of the original Mayflower that brought the Pilgrims to America.

Piloted by artificial intelligence technology, the 50-foot (15m) trimaran had no captain, navigator or any humans on board.

"When you don't have anybody onboard, you obviously can't do the mechanical, physical fixes that are needed," said Rob High, a software executive at IBM helping to work on the project. "That's also part of the learning process."

The solar-powered ship's first attempt to cross the Atlantic in 2021 was beset with technical problems, forcing it back to its home port of Plymouth, England – the same place the Pilgrim settlers sailed from in 1620. It set off from the South West coast again in April but mechanical difficulties diverted it to Portugal's Azores islands and then to Canada. After a successful four-day journey it has arrived in Plymouth, America.

"The voyage's completion means we can start analyzing data from the ship's journey and dig into the AI system's performance," Rob added. He said the prospect of such crewless vessels navigating the seas on a

continuous basis will make it easier to collect important marine data.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-devon-61710706.amp>

b) Allhallows Museum, Honiton

<https://honiton.nub.news/news/local-news/up-close-allhallows-museum-honiton-141834?IYA-mail=cf8e6e05-4c1d-4f59-98b4-83e3d9bdcf6a>

c) Beer's flood history exhibition

<https://sidmouth.nub.news/news/local-news/sidmouth-exhibition-of-beers-flood-history-set-to-open-143020?IYA-mail=cf8e6e05-4c1d-4f59-98b4-83e3d9bdcf6a>

d) History of Thelma Hulbert

https://www.midweekherald.co.uk/news/honiton-museum-thelma-hulbert-history-9145124?utm_source=Newsletter&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=DM61324

e) Heatwave unmask eerie ancient treasures

https://www.cornwalllive.com/news/cornwall-news/gallery/heatwave-unmasks-erie-ancient-treasures-7363810?utm_source=devon_live_newsletter&utm_campaign=western_morning_news_newsletter2&utm_medium=email