



## **HYTHE CIVIC SOCIETY**

# **NEWSLETTER**

**No 201 April - May 2018**

### **SOCIETY NEWS**

#### **Annual General Meeting**

The Notice of the Meeting, to be held in the Town Hall at 7.00pm on Tuesday 8th May, accompanies this Newsletter. We are very pleased that the speaker this year is Committee member Anne Petrie and her talk is entitled "Remembering 1918"

The minutes of last year's AGM are on our website and copies will be available at the meeting or from the Secretary, Mary Hunter, 'phone 01303 268423.

#### **HCS Summer Outing**

This year we are planning to visit BLETCHLEY PARK. No firm date yet but it will be towards the end of July. Full details will be in the next Newsletter, on our website and available at the AGM and our Tuesday talks.

#### **Christmas Cards**

Following the popularity of the Society's Christmas cards last year we would like to invite members or friends to submit new designs for 2018. Preference will be given to designs that highlight any scenes typical of Hythe. We hope that at least one of those selected might reference the centenary of the WW1 Armistice.

If you would like your artwork to be considered for this competition please send an electronic version by email to [enquiries@hythecivicsociety.org](mailto:enquiries@hythecivicsociety.org) before 31<sup>st</sup> August. All entries will be acknowledged and the winning artist will be chosen by your committee at their September meeting. Any surplus made on the sale of the cards will be donated to charities of the artist(s) choice.

#### **General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)**

These new Regulations govern the way personal member records are held by organisations such as H.C.S. They come into force on May 25<sup>th</sup> and we are working to ensure that H.C.S. is fully compliant. We are required to tell you what records we do hold and they are:

##### **On our computer files:**

Member's name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, amount of subscriptions and donations received.  
HMRC Gift Aid return.

##### **On our paper files only:**

Original membership applications  
Gift Aid Declarations

We do NOT retain any banking information for members who pay by standing order.

Once membership ceases the information is removed from the electronic system and paper copies are destroyed except for a copy of the HMRC gift aid return which is legally required for accounting purposes.

Recent application forms specifically permit us to retain this information and older members are deemed to have approved.

If any member wishes to see or amend their original membership application, or gift aid declaration, or has any queries please do not hesitate to contact the Treasurer, Alan Joyce, by email at [treasurer@hythecivicsociety.org](mailto:treasurer@hythecivicsociety.org) or telephone: 01303 267085.

#### **H.C.S. History Group Projects**

From time to time we will update you on the projects which are being undertaken by the HCS History Group. If you are interested in or would like to contribute any information please contact Anne Petrie by email at: [annepetrie6@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:annepetrie6@yahoo.co.uk)

A compendium of all the Questions and Answers raised at meetings over the last two years has been put on the group's website this month. They include queries about 'Parkfields', Botolph's Bridge, and the Town Hall clock and can be viewed at [www.hythehistory.org](http://www.hythehistory.org)

The group has been given a projector for use at meetings and presentations.

Two group members took part in the visit of osteology students from Kent University to St Leonard's crypt & helped with the information sessions.

Research on the lost houses of Pedlinge has started.

Saltwood PC and the Saltwood Village Society have confirmed that they would like Saltwood to be included in the 2018 Armistice event and all names have now been researched. Mapping of addresses where Hythe & Saltwood dead of World War One lived is underway.

New research on the local tram network has been completed and is available on the History Group's website as above

#### **OUR HYTHE**

##### **Crypt Stewarding at St Leonard's Church**

The crypt at St Leonard's Church will be open for visitors this year during Easter weekend (Saturday 31 March, Sunday afternoon 1 April and Monday 2

April) and then each day from 1 May through to 30 September.

Any prospective new volunteers to become Crypt Stewards for a fortnightly morning (11.00am to 1.00pm) or afternoon (2.00-4.00pm) session are invited to contact Brin Hughes on 01303 264470 or email [brin.hughes@btinternet.com](mailto:brin.hughes@btinternet.com).

Pre-season briefings will take place in the crypt on Saturday 14 April at 11.00am and Monday 16 April at 5.00pm to acquaint volunteers with procedural arrangements and to provide an update on recent research activities.

## **PLANNING MATTERS**

### **Local Plan – Submission Draft**

The Society submitted 12 comments on the Submission Draft of the Local Plan before the consultation closed on 19 March. The main comments related to the omission of Otterpool Park garden town as its planned construction will clearly fall within the plan timescale; an objection to the policy for the development of Princes Parade; the lack of any analysis of the cumulative effect of all the proposed development on the road network; and, the reliance on justification of policies on open space and heritage whose evidence derives from unpublished strategies not allowing any public scrutiny. The Society thanks members for the return of completed questionnaires which provide the evidence for the Society's comments. More details can be found on the Planning page of the Society's website.

### **Radical Overhaul of National Planning Policy**

In early March the Prime Minister gave a keynote speech about the need to build more houses. This will have a direct impact on Local Plans prepared by district councils. The speech indicated that district councils that did not comply would be penalised! The means of implementing this new stance is through revisions to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). A consultative draft of the NPPF is on public deposit until 10 May 2018.

## **TOWN AND AROUND**

### **“Made In Hythe”**

#### **A Short History of Portex by C.J. O'Connor**

Chris O'Connor, a member of our History Group, has just published a book about this important Hythe-based company. The book is now available at a price of £9.99 + £2 p.p. from:

[chris@lpaccounting.co.uk](mailto:chris@lpaccounting.co.uk) Tel. 01303 260758

A full description will appear in NL202.

## **SOCIAL HISTORY**

### **Folkestone, Hythe and Sandgate Tramway**

Most of us know that there used to be a tramway connecting Folkestone and Hythe but how many of us knew that its actual construction started at Hythe main line station - and why? And of the battles that were fought to get the various sections built?

Ron Greenwood, our IT manager, has researched the history of the FH&S Tramway in considerable depth and his article is to be read on the Hythe History Group's website (go to [www.hythehistory.org](http://www.hythehistory.org) and click on the Maps,

Names and Places icon). Ron attaches to his article an account entitled "a Four-Mile Ride by the Sea" by a traveller. Both articles are accompanied by photographs. Recommended reading for those interested in the history of Hythe and in seeing what the town and people looked like a hundred years ago.

There are not many traces of the tramway left with the notable exception of the tramway stables on Prospect Road near Red Lion Square which, in 1985, received the Hythe Civic Society Award for excellence of design following its conversion into offices.

### **Mackeson's Brewery**

*A Civic Society member has found, among his late father's papers a history of the brewery, This is the third of several extracts from the research, which was compiled before the brewery shut in 1968.*

For the Mackesons, the turn of the century marked the end of one epoch and the beginning of another. At this time Henry Mackeson senior died and at this time also his sons established themselves as owners of Hythe brewery, shortly before John Friend's death. Both Henry and William, however, seem to have been already working there and the 1801 conveyance describes them and Friend as brewers of Hythe. In 1797 Henry had married a Deal girl, Mary Hayman. Her father was probably Thomas Hayman who, four years earlier, appointed "Henry Mackeson Brewer of ..... Hythe my sole executor". This could hardly have been Henry Mackeson senior who was old, gouty and did not live in Hythe, but it could have been his son, who, though only just of age then, was later to marry a Hayman and had already had dealings with Friend at Hythe. Perhaps young Henry was then a pupil brewer who went home at week-ends to Deal, for a brass in Hythe church states that his daughter, Elizabeth, was born at Deal. His brother, William, may have been a pupil brewer before the 1801 sale, too, since Friend's will refers to him also as a brewer of that town.

From these days, in the form of a note of duty paid or beer brewed for a period of two months in 1796, we have the only indication of early output at Hythe. Strong beer was brewed about twice a week in the Spring and each brew averaged about 38 barrels. The only other drink recorded was small beer – the quantities were less and brewing was even more infrequent.

In 1802 the Mackeson brothers successfully bid for some land by the West Bridge near the Brewery. Henry would have been about thirty and William two years younger. It is clear from letters, that building fever overtook them quickly, though it is not at all clear what this work consisted of. At this time, only just over twenty miles away across the Channel, Napoleon threatened invasion and for years Hythe was full of soldiers waiting to repulse him. So many troops meant so many more people wanted beer and presumably some new building was required if the brewery was to expand to meet the demand.

Certainly the new construction caused uneasy moments, for in May 1803 Henry wrote 'we are now to expend so large a sum in building that for a



considerable time to come we shall be rather short of cash.'

Some materials were shipped from London since he told his supplier there: 'The bricks are all landed safe and I think they will answer extremely well. We were obliged to unload them in the night on account of the tide ....'

It is easy to imagine the men crunching about on the shingle on a warm May night as they heaved the bricks on to waiting carts. Such unloading must have had its anxieties for the next day Henry wrote 'the press gangs were active along the shore yesterday in taking men even from the fishing boats. This I fear argues war.' Naturally he was concerned, but as to the building he was satisfied: 'you have stated everything so fully that I believe the workmen thoroughly understand the plan.'

Not all the Mackesons stayed at home. Brother John, for instance, some five years Henry's junior, preferred campaigning in India, but he kept in touch with home, writing longer letters, despite the fighting, than his brothers, who complained they had no time. 'I suppose Mr. Friend long before you receive this will be defunct', he wrote back in August 1803.

'I really do not think he will leave us anything. He may leave you a legacy as a mark of his gratitude for the trouble you have had and paid him, but I fear we have but little prospects ...' In fact, Friend's death had already taken place on December 19th, 1802.

The old man had been kinder than John imagined, for in September 1803, the latter wrote: 'Mr. Friend died worth a good round sum. My share of his property I mean to be the foundation for making a fortune, I shall immediately have £4000 sent out to this country which... will be a very pretty beginning.' The climate was too much for John, however, and though he improved on the journey from Kurria to Bombay he decided to leave the East. At St. Helena, a miserably expensive place where passengers changing ships lodged with the islanders at exorbitant rates, since there was no hotel, John wrote that he expected to meet his brother Tom there on his return from China.

**To be continued.....**

**HYPHE IN BLOOM** – Some souvenirs of 2017 to help us look forward to Spring:



## Events in Hythe

### CIVIC SOCIETY

**Town Walks** - The ever-popular Guided take place from June to September starting at 10.30am outside the Town Hall, Parties of 10 or more may come at any time by arrangement. Please call (01303) 266118 for more details.

**Talks Evenings** - The Society arranges talks at fortnightly intervals on Tuesdays during the months of October to April at Hythe Bay C of E Primary School, Cinque Ports Ave. Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm. The next talks are:

**10<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**     **Brian Freedland**             **Women of The Raj**

**24<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**     **Maureen Clayton**             **Shipwrecks Round the English Coast**

### FRIENDS OF ST LEONARD'S CHURCH – CONCERTS:

**THURSDAY 5 APRIL, 12 noon: 'Four's Company!' [Tickets £7]**

**Zoë Peate (soprano), Gary Prior (piano), Bryony Prior (horn), Paul Newton (trumpet)**

Works by Purcell, Richard Strauss, Franz Strauss, Büsser, Hoagy Carmichael, Rodgers & Hart – followed by light lunches in the church.

**SATURDAY 7 APRIL, 7.30pm: James Short (Organ Scholar, Exeter College, University of Oxford) [Tickets £12]**

Bach – *Prelude and Fugue in B minor, BWV 544*; Mendelssohn – *Sonata No 5 in D major, Op 65 No 5*;

Parry – *Chorale Prelude on Rockingham*; Vierne – *Symphony No 2 in E minor, Op 20*

**SATURDAY 5 MAY, 7.30pm: Festival Chamber Orchestra – 'Venetian Magnificence' [Tickets £15]**

Vivaldi – *4 violins concerto in B minor*; Vivaldi – *Oboe concerto in D minor*;

Albinoni – *Oboe concerto in D minor*; Corelli – *Concerto Grosso, Op 6 No 1*; Corelli – *Concerto Grosso, Op 6 No 3*;

Morricone – *La Califfa & Gabriel's Oboe*

**WEDNESDAY 16 MAY, 12 noon: Jamie Moore (guitar) [Tickets £7]**

Versatile guitarist, composer and seasoned performer in a variety of styles – from classical and jazz to improvisation and music theatre – plays original guitar pieces, familiar pieces by well-known guitar composers, and own arrangements of some of his favourite standards.

**SATURDAY 2 JUNE, 7.30pm: Nicholas King (organ) [Tickets £12]**

Bach – *Toccat & Fugue in D minor, BWV 565*; Howells – *Psalm Prelude, Set 2 No 2*; Archer – *A Festival Toccata*;

Reger – *Sonata No2 in D minor, Op 60*; Schumann – *Two Fugues on B-A-C-H*;

Joubert – *Passacaglia & Fugue in C minor, Op 35*; Franck – *Finale, Op 21*

*For more information about the Friends of St Leonard's Church, including how to become an Annual or Life Member and to be added to our email distribution list for advance information about concerts throughout the area, visit our website at [www.friendsofstleonardshythe.org.uk](http://www.friendsofstleonardshythe.org.uk), contact Brinley Hughes on 01303 264470 or e-mail [brin.hughes@btinternet.com](mailto:brin.hughes@btinternet.com)*

**HYTHE COMMUNITY CINEMA:** *meets on the first Tuesday of the month from October to July at The Tin Tabernacle, Portland Road, Hythe CT21 6FL at 7.30pm (doors open at 7pm). Entry £5 on the door, or £3 for Hythe Cinema Card holders. (for more details: [www.hythecommunitycinema.co.uk](http://www.hythecommunitycinema.co.uk) or phone 01303 264914)*

**3rd APRIL**     **I, DANIEL BLAKE** - (2016) • UK • 100 mins             Drama • Rating: 15

*This heartfelt and emotional film follows a 59 year old carpenter, who, after a heart attack, befriends a single mother and her children as they navigate their way through the benefits system. Won a BAFTA for Outstanding British Film of the Year, a César for Best Foreign Film and the Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival.*

**1st MAY 2018**     **THE BLACK HEN**     (2015) • Nepal • 90 mins             Drama • Rating: 12A

*A temporary cease-fire in the civil war allows a small Nepalese village to breathe a sigh of relief. Two young boys from different castes become close friends and raise a hen in hopes of selling the eggs. Offers a fascinating insight into rural life in Nepal.*

**5th JUNE 2018**     **PATERSON** (2016) • US • 118 mins             Comedy drama • Rating: 15

*A week in the life of a poetry-writing bus driver, and a quiet observation of the triumphs and defeats of daily life and of the poetry evident in its smallest details. A film of great gentle charm.*

**We are on the Web: Website: [www.hythecivicsociety.org](http://www.hythecivicsociety.org) You can e-mail us at: [enquiries@hythecivicsociety.org](mailto:enquiries@hythecivicsociety.org)**

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