



Charity No 2324205

HENLEY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

March 2016

Editor: Sandra Moon

www.thehenleysociety.ctc-aspire.co.uk

Dates for your diary:

Friday 8th April 2016 AGM at Sacred Heart Parish Hall, Walton Road , off Vicarage Road at 7pm

Thursday 2nd June 2016 - Visit to Hinton Ampner (application form enclosed)

Saturday 3rd December - Christmas Lunch at Red Lion Hotel

AGM Friday 8th April

This year Society's AGM is once more at The Sacred Heart Parish Hall. The Agenda, Minutes from 2015 and Audited Accounts for last year's are enclosed. If you are interested in joining the Executive Committee , please complete the nomination form and send to the Secretary, Nora Scanlon by the 25th March.

This is followed by talk is about **Henley Spaces**.

Our outdoor spaces: streets, squares, greens; were often originally designed to be civic places; their buildings forming a public space of value as townscape, for walking, sitting, meeting; but now dominated by vehicles and their engineering demands.

Henley has recovered its Market Place as a civic space, but there are many others that are just road junctions, with their structure and value lost.

Moira Hankinson is a landscape architect who has specialised in identifying the inherent structure and value of landscapes and townscapes. She will talk about some of these Henley spaces: their origins; what they are like now; how we could restore them to be of value to us all.

New Auditor wanted

We have been most grateful to Anthony Faucheux who has been our auditor since 2007 but now feels it is time to step down. So I am asking members if there is anyone or know of anyone who would be willing to take over this job. Please contact me, Sandra Moon on 01491 573887.

Outing to Hinton Ampner and Winchester on Thursday 2nd June

Our next outing is planned for 2nd June with a visit to Hinton Ampner in Hampshire and time in Winchester for lunch and a visit to the Cathedral or discover the town generally. Details of the event and booking form is enclosed with this Newsletter. Leaving at 8.30 am returning to Henley approx. 5.45pm

Hinton Ampner is an elegant Georgian Style National Trust Property set in attractive gardens and woodland to the east of Winchester.

The house was lovingly rebuilt by its last owner, Ralph Dutton, after a catastrophic fire in 1960. The beautiful proportioned rooms house his exquisite collection of Georgian furniture, ceramics and art, each window offering undisturbed views of the countryside beyond. Manicured lawns lead down avenues of sculptured topiary and at the time of our visit the roses should be in full bloom.

On arrival at the house members may have coffee in the Stables Tea Room and wander around the gardens before the house opens at 11 a.m. There will not be a conducted tour and members will be free to wander round the house in their own time.

We plan to leave Hinton Ampner at 12.45 pm and travel into Winchester a short distance away where the coach will drop us as near as possible to the Cathedral. Member will have time to eat at the many restaurants in the vicinity and visit the Cathedral and town centre before we leave for Henley at 4.30pm



Lecture - Henley Through Time by Ian Giuliani on Tuesday 24th November at the Barn at 7pm

Ian Giuliani gave a talk entitled "Building for our Time". which was very well attended and gave us much to think about.

Christmas Lunch - Saturday 5th December at Badgemore Golf Club

On 5th December thirty eight of our members enjoyed our annual Christmas Lunch at Badgemore Park Golf Club. Once again our thanks go to the staff for its very efficient organisation. The raffle with varied



prizes supplied by members was a great success and we raised £170.00 As an additional feature this year David Whitehead arranged a quiz with questions appertaining to Henley. The tables were competing against each



other and resulted in a lively discussion between members.

As we have been holding our annual lunch at Badgemore for the last five years the Committee have decided to explore an alternative venue for our 2016 lunch and after checking out various locations in the town have made a booking with the Red Lion Hotel for the lunch to be held on Saturday 3rd December. We hope that members will welcome this change of venue and support the occasion.

Lecture Tuesday 23rd February



About 50 people attended another very interesting lecture given by Simon Townley who is a member of the University of Oxford History Faculty and editor of the Victoria County History (VCH) of Oxfordshire.

Title: Benson to Henley via Ewelme and Nettlebed: Recent Historical Research in the Oxfordshire Chilterns



"In the Anglo-Saxon and early medieval period the area was dominated by an important royal estate centre at Benson, whose dependent territories stretched across the Chilterns to Henley. In more recent times Benson developed into a coaching stop on the Oxford-London road, and is now the site of an important RAF Station. Ewelme is best known for its attractive 15th-century complex of church, grammar school, and almshouses (co-founded by Chaucer's granddaughter Alice de la Pole), which feature some of the earliest brickwork in Oxfordshire. Nettlebed was an early centre for brick- and tile-making", and Henley was an important riverside port due to the river for many years only being navigable to this point. He brought along copies of his book which he signed and

proved popular and we have given a Donation to the VCH from the Society.

Henley/Harpsden Local Neighbourhood Plan

The referendum on the Henley/Harpsden Neighbourhood Plan took place on Thursday, 10 March. There was a 28% turn out with 83% in favour. Members of the Society's planning committee were in favour of the Plan being adopted and encourage you to vote YES. We recognise that the Plan has a number of undesirable features but consider that the alternative of not having a Plan would almost certainly result in a worse outcome for the town.

New Members

I would like to welcome the following as members : John & Marian Skuse, Sara Abey & Jack Ogden, Matthew Young, Carolyn Molyneux, Cornelius Kavanagh and Ralph & Anne Gott

Committee

Errol Facy - Chairman

Ian Giuliani - Vice Chairman

Nora Scanlon - Hon Secretary 01491 579619

Sandra Moon - Hon Treasurer & Membership Secretary 01491 573887

David Whitehead - Chairman of Planning Sub Committee

Jenifer Copeland, Pauline Fleming - Events Organiser, Valerie Alasia and Emma Abbott

President

H.R.H. The Duke of Kent KG GCMG GCVO

Vice Presidents

The Lord Camoys GCVO DL

Sir Martyn Arbib

The Baroness Buscombe of Goring

The Lord Phillimore of Shiplake