

Colyton Parish History Society Newsletter 24 April 2021

This month we mark the sad passing of HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh and Elizabeth Cochrane, widow of John Cochrane. Elizabeth was secretary to the History Society in the 1990s, a fine needlewoman and a member of the WI, while John was a member for many years and undertook much research on behalf of people looking to develop their family trees.

On a happier note, we have the launch of our History Society Facebook page.

Sarah Charman, Editor

1. History Society News

The History Society Management Committee would like to draw your attention to the following:

New Facebook Page -

Welcome to our new Colyton Heritage Centre Facebook page which we have just launched! You can find us at <https://www.facebook.com/colytonheritage> If you use Facebook then please 'like' us and share this FB page with your friends and family and encourage them to 'like' us too. Our banner shows the enthusiastic involvement of the whole community when Colyton Parish History Society first opened the Heritage Centre seven years ago. Previously the Society had been based in a drafty cabin in the car park.

We hope to inspire people of all ages to take an interest in the history and social development of Colyton parish and to act as a signpost to information about talks, exhibitions and new discoveries about local history. We will also be flagging up notable anniversaries and reoccurring events in the annual cycle of life in this community as well as 'then and now' images of local events and places, new finds by local historians and archaeological discoveries in the area as well as details of events and talks organised by other local history societies.



On this page you will also be able to find the latest information about when we can reopen the Heritage Centre after the pandemic lockdown, what the opening hours will be and covid secure visiting guidance and of course for visitors to Colyton, details of where to find us.

The Heritage Centre has a wide selection of items of local and historic interest on display as well as information panels and an interactive screen providing a wealth of detail about some of the key events in Colyton's long history, the notable characters who have lived here and descriptions of local buildings.

Indeed the Heritage Centre was originally a wealthy medieval merchant's house and still retains some interesting historic features such as a wall painting above the fireplace, wooden panelling and a decorative ceiling.

We also have a range of materials available for research in the Centre including books, photographs, copies of the parish registers, maps and of course the digitised version of the Colyton Chamber of Feoffee's historic archive. The Feoffee's archive is of national importance and provides a unique insight into the social and economic history of Colyton over the past 500 years. It was digitised by volunteers from the History Society with the aid of a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The Heritage Centre also has for sale a number of publications by local authors and a delightful range of quality souvenir merchandise such as mugs, tea towels and teddy bears.

Please share this page with your friends!

2. Other News

Memories of Prince Philip

Little did we know when we created this FB page that we would be starting by marking the sad passing of HRH the Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. Prince Philip was an extraordinary man who lived a long and extraordinary life.

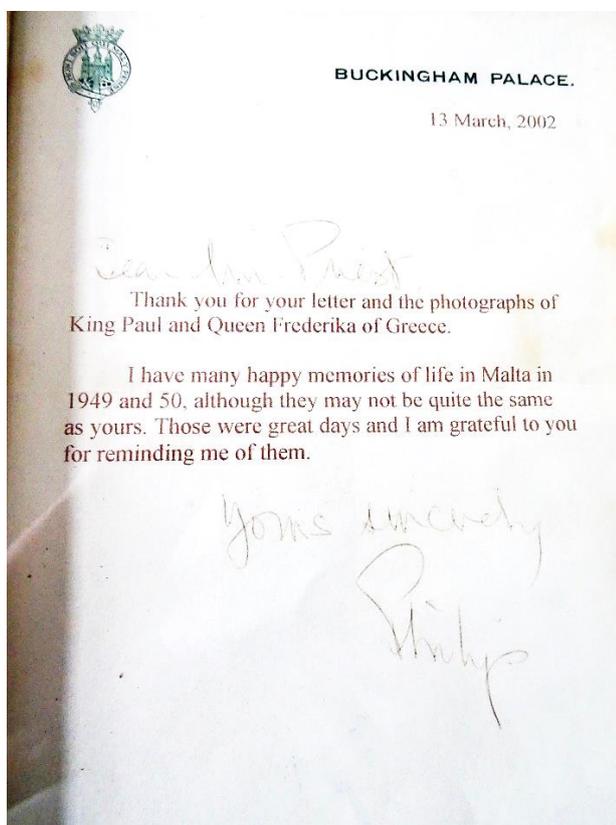
A local resident has kindly shared with us this family memory of the Duke. Speaking to me recently, Mrs Gail Jarman said:

"My dad Jim Priest lived in Beer and was in the Royal Navy. He was stationed in Malta when Prince Philip was there. My dad was bosun and was responsible for piping anyone of importance on board. He often piped Prince Philip aboard. In the attached photos Prince Philip is shown waiting to welcome King Paul and Queen Frederika of Greece on board." (Gail's dad is out of view behind the Queen.)

Some fifty years later in 2002, Jim Priest wrote to the Duke sending him copies of the photos and recalling memories of his time in the Royal Navy. He duly received a warm reply from Buckingham Palace, personally signed by Prince Philip, in which he commented that:

"I have so many happy memories of life in Malta in 1949 and 50, although they may not be quite the same as yours. Those were great days and I am grateful to you for reminding me of them."





Do you have any personal or family recollections of the Duke of Edinburgh which you would be willing to share with us? If so please do post them on our FB page or send me the details and I will do so - we would love to see them.

3. Things you may have missed

Exmouth - John Nutt – pirate

<https://exmouth.nub.news/n/exmouth-lives-the-pirate-john-nutt?IYA-mail=849809d2-783c-47dd-98e3-4c821c95cf93>

Honiton Charter Day

https://www.midweekherald.co.uk/news/honiton-charter-day-planned-7812968?utm_source=Newsletter&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=DM38884

Honiton potter

https://www.midweekherald.co.uk/news/freddie-jeanes-honiton-potter-7871802?utm_source=Newsletter&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=DM39008

Photos of Honiton's sporting heritage

<https://honiton.nub.news/n/local-family-unearths-historic-photos-of-honiton39s-sporting-heritage?IYA-mail=849809d2-783c-47dd-98e3-4c821c95cf93>

Lost Dorset villages

<https://www.dorsetecho.co.uk/news/19070009.six-abandoned-lost-dorset-villages-never-knew/?ref=rss&IYA-mail=849809d2-783c-47dd-98e3-4c821c95cf93>

New art exhibition Town Mill Galleries, Lyme Regis

<https://www.bridportnews.co.uk/news/19227860.new-ground-exhibition-takes-place-town-mill-galleries/?ref=rss&IYA-mail=849809d2-783c-47dd-98e3-4c821c95cf93>

Lyme Regis museum

<https://lyme-online.co.uk/news/lyme-regis-news/make-a-matchbox-masterpiece-for-museum-anniversary/?IYA-mail=849809d2-783c-47dd-98e3-4c821c95cf93>

Lyme Regis – dragons teeth

<https://lyme-online.co.uk/news/lyme-regis-news/the-history-behind-lymes-dragons-teeth/?IYA-mail=849809d2-783c-47dd-98e3-4c821c95cf93>