

COLYTON PARISH HISTORY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

25th JANUARY 2017

Editor's note

Happy New Year to you all with best wishes for an exciting time in 2017. There is so much to look forward to in the coming year.

Work on researching and preparing content for our new interactive screen in the Heritage Centre is progressing well. Thank you so much to everyone who has provided written material and illustrations for this. Cataloguing of the Feoffees archive is now underway and we will shortly begin training volunteers in digitizing and other techniques. And we are planning a number of interesting and fun events during the summer which people can get involved in. More of this below.

Sarah Charman **Editor**

1. News

a) Colyton Cloth and Lace Heritage Event

Did your mother or grandmother have her wedding dress made by Madame Wood, who lived in Church Street, Colyton in the 1930s – 1950s? Do you still have that wedding dress, or a scrapbook of photos of the wedding or even the original bill for the dress? Did your mother or grandmother record her experiences of fittings with Madame Wood, choosing the style of her dress or the fabric and lace from which it was made or memories of her wedding day in a diary? If you have any of these treasures would you be prepared to loan them to us for a special **Cloth and Lace Heritage event** we are planning to hold here in Colyton this summer. If so, please could you contact Jan Hedderly (hedderly.jan@gmail.com) or Bridget Spear (bjanegiles@aol.co.uk). They would be delighted to hear from you.

b) Are you a Latin Scholar? Can you read Saxon? Do you fancy the challenge of transcribing a 1000 year old document?

As part of the Parish History Project we are looking for someone with those skills who would be interested in transcribing a Saxon Lland Charter dating from 1005. If you have the necessary skills and are interested in this task please email me on: sarah.charman@yahoo.co.uk

c) Missing Book

'*Deaf Adders*', the second book in a trilogy of novels about Colyton by Christopher Leech is missing from the Heritage Centre. If anyone has seen it or knows where it is please could you let Roger Hutton know at roger.hutton1@btopenworld.com

2. CPHS Meetings in 2017

a) Members Evening

A reminder: the first CPHS meeting in 2017 will be the **Members' Evening** tonight in Colyton Town Hall at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 25 January when there will also be a presentation by the South West Film and TV Archive.

b) Annual General Meeting

The **Annual General Meeting** of the Society will take place at Colyford Memorial Hall at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 22 February when there will also be a talk on **Old Church House, Colyton**.

c) Chard and its Victorian People

This talk by Vince Lean will take place at Colyton Town Hall at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 22 March.

3. Other Organisations' Events



Legacy to Landscape Project News

Unearthing the hidden history of the Legacy Landscape:

Devon Heritage Centre Training Session Visit – Monday 13 March 2pm – 4pm

A FREE training session at the Devon Heritage Centre (DHC) in Exeter has now been finalised for the afternoon of Monday 13 March. (Note date change from provisional date of January 30)

It will include a guided tour to learn how to access the archives and what possible material there may be to examine, in helping us to piece together the story of this historic landscape.

To book a place and get further details please contact Ruth. Contact details below.

2017 Events

The full 2017 events programme will be available at the end of February in local community venues or for a copy please email Ruth – contacts details below.

Ancient Tree Hunt 2017

This second year of the project we will be surveying the Legacy landscape for ancient, veteran trees -key historical features in the landscape. We need help in finding and recording them in woodlands, fields and hedgerows. You are invited to get involved and search, record and chart where these trees are.

Help us find those old, gnarled and large trunked *ancient trees* forgotten and hidden in the Legacy landscape. Alongside historical buildings, they are some of our oldest living monuments. However they too often go unrecognised and they don't get the official recognition that our buildings are afforded. Ancient trees aren't mapped across the landscape in the same way ancient woodland is, which makes them unintentionally vulnerable to neglect and lack of management.

We need to find where they are so we can ensure their care and protection and also encourage their offspring seedlings to provide future woodland in this special landscape. Learn how to record ancient trees at our first event to take place in the former medieval deer park at Woodend Park:

'Ancient Tree Hunt in Woodend Park', on **Sunday 26 February** and will be led by Jill Butler, Woodland Trust ancient trees expert. Parking Shute village, Haddon Road, EX13 7QR. Meet village noticeboard at start of Haddon Road, (Shute Barton end) No booking required. Free event. Please bring flexible tape measure, and if you have them a GPS, Smartphone or Tablet. 2pm – 5pm. Further information – contact Ruth on details below.

Ruth Worsley, legacytolandscape@gmail.com 01297 489741

More information on the project

www.eastdevonaonb.org.uk/index.php?page=legacy-to-landscape

Ruth Worsley, Legacy to Landscape project coordinator, tel 01297 489741 or email legacytolandscape@gmail.com

The Landscape to Legacy Project is funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund with support from the East Devon AONB Partnership, Devon Wildlife Trust and the Axe Vale and District Conservation Society.

Email legacytolandscape@gmail.com, or ring 01404 310012

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