

Colyton Parish History Society Newsletter 26 September 2020

News this month of a special presentation by Colyton Chamber of Feoffees to History Society Member Colin Pady to honour his remarkable 50 years of community service as a Feoffee - and publication of a new book on the history of Axminster.

Sarah Charman, Editor

1. News

Colyton Chamber of Feoffees honours Colin Pady for 50 years of community service



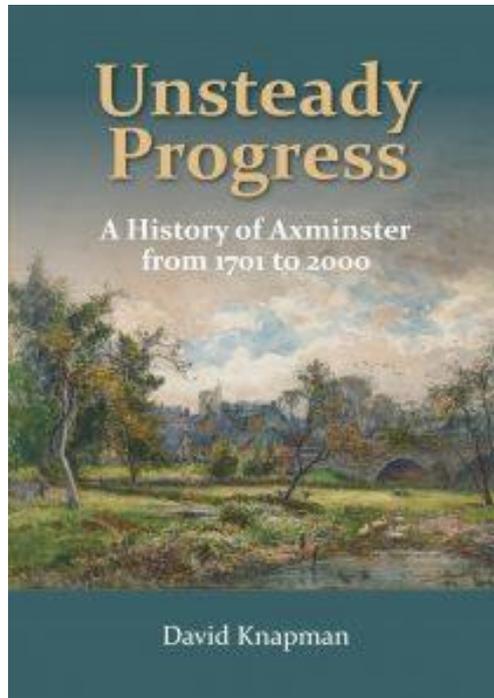
Colin Pady became a Feoffee on 8 September 1970. Fifty years later to the day, Chairman of the Chamber of Feoffees, Colin Chesterton presented him with a signed certificate marking his 50 years as a Feoffee. He congratulated Colin Pady on his remarkable record of public service to the community of Colyton Parish which he noted Colin was still continuing to serve both as a Feoffee and a Parish Councillor. The Chairman also presented him with three pictures of Colyton, a celebratory cake - made by Feoffee's wife Sam Underdown - and he explained that the Chamber would also like to give Mr Pady a tree of his choosing to plant in the community woodland. It was hoped to be able to arrange a public tree planting ceremony sometime in the autumn.

Responding to the Chairman, Mr Pady thanked colleagues for their generosity which he said was much appreciated. He would be very pleased to choose a walnut tree. Colin said it had been a great privilege for him to serve the community all these years and he would endeavour to continue to do so to the best of his ability. He recalled he had been proud to replace Sir Alec Zealey in 1970 and he still had the letter he had received from the then Bailiff, Miles Clayton, appointing him to the post. Since his appointment he had worked with seven Bailiffs. Recalling notable events in his 50 years of service, Mr Pady said he remembered particularly the building of a new Town Hall kitchen in 1985 which had replaced the cramped, dark facilities that had previously existed under the stage. He also recalled the days when smoking was common place and how much better meetings were now that it had been banned in public spaces! Colin said he had enjoyed his three stints as Chairman in

1991, 2001 and again in 2013 when the Chamber had taken the historic step of appointing its first lady Bailiff.

<https://www.midweekherald.co.uk/news/colyton-feofees-honour-colin-s-50-years-1-6831083>

b) **New History of Axminster published**



Unsteady Progress – *A History of Axminster from 1701 to 2000* by David Knapman has been published.

See link to interview with the author in the July edition of the Marshwood Vale Magazine below:

<http://www.marshwoodvale.com/features/2020/07/unsteady-progress/>

<https://www.waterstones.com/book/unsteady-progress-a-history-of-axminster-from-1701-to-2000/david-knapman/9781916376601>

2. Request for Photos - A Reminder



Ian Styles who is currently redeveloping the old town mill would be grateful for any photographs which members of the History Society or their families may have of the building from years gone by. Also any images of when it was in use as furniture factory. If you do have any photos or memories of the mill please let us know on and we will pass them on (sarah.charman@yahoo.co.uk or Jacqueline.mccullogh@btinternet.com)

3. Recent News Items of local historic interest which you may have missed

- a) **Rose Dugdale** - There are new claims that heiress Rose Dugdale, who grew up on a 600 acre estate near Axminster and became a convicted IRA bomber, also stole two Vermeer paintings.
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/rose-dugdale-the-british-heiress-who-joined-the-ira-stole-two-vermeers-wk2mqdv3t>

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8704105/She-debutante-turned-IRA-bomber-whos-frame-infamous-1970s-art-heist.html>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rose_Dugdale
- b) **Connections between Colonialism and Properties now in the Care of the National Trust** – the interim report on the Connections between Colonialism and Properties now in the Care of the National Trust, Including Links with Historic Slavery was published on 22 September and is available to read at the link below:
<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/features/addressing-the-histories-of-slavery-and-colonialism-at-the-national-trust>