



2005 programme promises variety

The programme for 2005 has plenty of variety, lots of interest and possibly a few exciting moments!

The year gets off to a spooky start on 21 February when Gareth King will be appearing at the Robin Hood pub to relate some "Victorian Ghost Stories".

In March we will have a visit from Lettys Parkyn, who, in Tudor costume will tell us about the life of a poor Tudor woman. April brings Steve Rostance, an enthusiastic Egyptology student, to explain how to look at hieroglyphs.



Our first outing of the year in

May is a visit to the County Records Office where we can maybe learn a few tricks on archiving. We will be shown the secrets of the vaults by our president, Chris Weir.

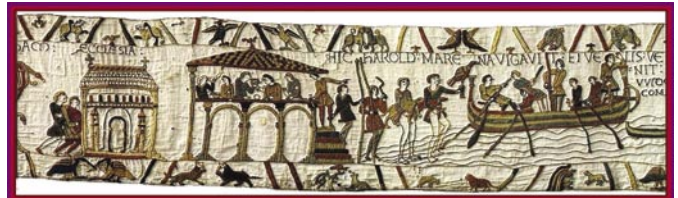


Reconstruction of the old theatre's facade.

In June, a visit to the National Coal mining Museum is planned. This should be an exciting and absorbing visit with a chance to ride in the cage to the depths of the mine, some 140 metres.

In September Michael Payne is coming to talk to us about "Nottingham's Forgotten Theatre" on St Mary's gate where entertainers like Champagne Charlie and Paganini appeared.

Colin Groves returns in October to talk about "The Bayeux Tapestry". This talk was cancelled last year due to an accident. Finally in November, our President Chris Weir will be testing your memory on "Bygone Shops and Shopping".



Then it's Christmas again!

Your ideas for talks and outings for next year will be needed by late summer so please bring back any leaflets and information you think may be of interest to the Society. Thanks for your support over the last year.
Roger Crooks, Chair.

Note - An outing in July is still to be arranged

LHS Archival Project

Our last newsletter in January 2004 described the proposed areas of interest of the Lambley Dumbles Project and the possible involvement of the Lambley Historical Society. One of the areas which has made significant progress is the computer database of interesting old photographs of Lambley.

Four of us - Janet Bridgford, Eric Dove, Jo Ellis and Jacky Mansfield met regularly last year to pore over old photos, date, describe and award a reference number to each photograph on a computer database. We have, to date, catalogued about 250 photographs in this way. In future sessions, it is intended that the database will be refined and further developed so that it can be made accessible to those who are interested, either in printed form or as information about a particular period or field of interest. For example, it is simple, by interrogating the database to find all the stored photographs of Main Street taken before 1920. Or, perhaps, you would like to see any photographs relating to the school over the last hundred years. The possibilities are endless.

However, we have almost come to the end of available, donated material. We are certain that, out there, is an untapped resource which could greatly enhance our collection. To this end, we are planning a "Photographic Road Show" – along the lines of television's Antiques Road Show – to be held in our Village Hall on 23 April 2005. People will be invited to come along with their photos, to have them scanned, described and added to the database. Original material, often precious and of great sentimental value, can then be taken home again.

Janet Bridgford.

2005 PROGRAMME

31st January

Annual General Meeting followed by buffet

21st February

Gareth King - "Victorian Ghost Stories"

21st March

Lettys Parkyn - "The Life of a Poor Tudor Woman"

18th April

Steve Rostance - "Translating Ancient Egyptian Hieroglyphs"

16th May

Visit to Nottingham County Records Office

18th June

Visit to National Coal Mining Museum

July

TBA

26th September

Michael Payne "Nottingham's Forgotten Theatre"

24th October

Colin Groves - "The Bayeux Tapestry"

21st November

Chris Weir - "Bygone Shops & Shopping"

All meetings to be held at The Robin Hood & Little John Inn, Lambley at 7.30pm.

Lambley Refocussed:

The "Photographic Road Show" mentioned above by Janet is being organised by Lambley Historical Society in partnership with The Friends of the Dumbles Project. The event will be called Lambley Refocussed and will hopefully provide a real opportunity to gather some photographic and other ephemera for our archive. On show will be photographs, past and present, plus displays by the Friends of Lambley Dumbles Project and work produced by Lambley school children. There will be a display and demonstration of the geophysics equipment used in the search for the Manor House.

We will need help, especially on the day, so if you can spare an hour or two please let any of the Committee know. More details will be published in the March edition of the Parish News.

Pingle Survey

In 2004 Lambley Historical Society was given permission by the owners of the Pingle field to carry out further archaeological geophysical surveying. Currently we have surveyed approximately 70% of the field and the results obtained so far are quite encouraging.

Several high resistance anomalies have appeared across the site, which is normally indicative of buried stone features. One anomaly in the south-west corner of the field is of particular interest. The shape of the anomaly suggests a very large stone structure, which given its position, could possibly be the Gate House, which is described in the 1459 rental for Lambley Manor. Also showing is

a long linear feature aligned east-west which may be part of a stone wall. *Alan Morris.*

Please note that the Pingle field is privately owned and there is no public access.



LAMBLEY MEMORIES

The other day I came across some pages of typescript, at Nottinghamshire Archives, that didn't look much at first glance, but when I started reading them, it was, as the phrase goes 'a different story'. The pages were titled 'Memories of a Villager' and they were written by a William Hopkinson at the turn of the century. They led me into another era.

He starts by describing the village setting: 'surrounding the village are many picturesque acres of cultivated fields and grassland including the Orchards on Catfoot Lane, the Foxhills near the 'top' Dumbles... and the Goss cover, a favourite hunting area for the South Notts Hounds'. The Dumbles are noted as a 'delightful' picnic place and the village's links with Ralph Cromwell are duly recorded, along with information about the church. Interestingly he also describes 'traces of tunnels leading from Lambley Castle to the Church, from the Rectory to the Church, and from the house opposite the Church to the Church'.

He goes on to note the presence of the hosiery trade. A Vincent Skinner employed 'folk' to work on black silk stockings 'while Henry Brandreth employs other villagers to make thread and socks'. Seaming was done by the 'ladies of the village' who prepared the garments for loading into carts. On Wednesdays and Saturdays the bundles were taken to I & R Morley of Manvers Street in Nottingham. The carriers brought back market garden produce from Sneinton Market. Villagers could also send fruit, especially apples, for sale on the market. Harry Lovatt and his cousin Richard Lovatt brought coal into the village on their carts from railway sidings on St Ann's Well Road. Most carriers had carts with seats round the sides and at the back so that about ten passengers could be given a ride into Nottingham. Two men, Mr Mason and Mr Sears looked after the roads though these were often in very poor condition as they were only paved with 'mound sorrel'.

There were two lamplighters, Samuel Hardy, a framework knitter, and Samuel Godfrey, the ex-schoolmaster. They looked after ten oil lamps. A cobbler, John Alvey worked at the bottom of Green Lane. The postman was Jessie Hardy who lived in the Post Office, a building which was owned by the Lambley Friendly Society or 'sick club'. There was even a town crier, Mr Shelton, who paraded the streets in his 'very smart hat and coat'.

The shops catered for most needs. The grocers, Elias Kirk, sold 'anything from a reel of cotton to the best meal that money can buy.' William Henshaw owned a shop called the Ideal Stores, at the bottom

of Chapel Lane. Pedlars and 'travellers' came from neighbouring villages and from Nottingham. Samuel Plumb, the baker, lived at the bottom of Mill Lane. Local men, with a few cows each, kept the village supplied with milk and butter. Almost every family owned a pig or a few chickens. Local market gardeners held an annual flower show in the field at the back of the Nag's Head.

Despite all the work there was also some fun. Lots of people took a day's holiday away from home at least once a year, usually on August Bank Holiday or on Whit Monday. In September some villagers would take a rail trip to Cleethorpes, starting the day with an early morning walk over the Bridle road to Burton Joyce Station. After buying a half-crown return ticket 'each member of the party boards the 'special' at 6.30am. After an enjoyable day by the sea the party prepared for their 3-hour trip back to Lowdham Station. Both football and cricket were favourite recreations.

On Pancake Day children played marbles, shuttle-cock, stick and billet and whip and top. The schoolchildren got a whole day for the Woodborough Wakes.

William Hopkinson recalls a bygone era in Lambley. It is a rare insight into village life over a hundred years ago. It made me wonder who William Hopkinson was. Does anybody know anything about him? The Society would love to know more. Perhaps it would also be interesting if someone wrote a similar 'Memory' of Lambley today. It would be fascinating to compare the two memories, 100 years apart. The 'modern' memory could also be kept at the Archives for future generations to read. *Chris Weir - President.*



Treasurer's Overview Report

Members will recall from my report at the 2004 AGM that the LHS current account was in deficit. This trend has continued in 2005 and we therefore need to increase our income. This could be done by increasing the membership fee and/or fund-raising events. Members suggestions are welcome on how we could raise the extra required.

A detailed report and accounts will be available at the AGM. *John Smith - LHS Treasurer.*

2004 Album



GeoPhysics in the Pingle field - technical stuff



Ann just HAD to see what was inside this shed in the grounds at Renishaw - Winnie the Pooh perhaps?

Janet and Richard at Renishaw - elegant as the statues?



Renishaw again, with a warning in the undergrowth.



One of the interesting works of art at Renishaw.



Now, that's what I call a fireplace - Wingfield Manor



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