



## **CHARING & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

[www.charinghistory.co.uk](http://www.charinghistory.co.uk)

### **CDLHS update: MARCH 2020** issue 7

**Have you noticed the colour coding?**

**Current**

**Looking back;**

**Looking Forward**

**Over to our members**

**Other Local History Society News & Talks**

**Springtime is here, and with the lighter evenings, we hope our interesting talks have even more appeal!**

Our talks are held on the second Thursday of the month  
at The Parish Hall, Station Road, TN27 0JA.

Doors open at 7.30 for a complimentary tea, or coffee, and biscuits  
before each talk, which start at 8.00 pm.

#### **Committee News**



#### **What we've been doing**

Keith and Steve have for some time been working hard on updating the original Charing Trail leaflet with new photos and to include the Sundial Garden and the cemetery. This is now ready for printing, and will soon be ready for visitors.

Celia has finished the draft of her booklet on Henry VIII's brief visit to Charing, which will be ready for the celebrations in June.

Tina, Kate and Francesca Oram have been busy working on exciting ideas to interest the children at the FOCG weekend, and will share their ideas with you at the March meeting.

I'm sure you've appreciated Sylvia's talk reminders each month, and the inclusion of interesting photos from our collection.

Sheila has been researching and planning our next outings, more info to follow ....

Sadly, we say goodbye to Kerstin, who is standing down from the committee, but has kindly said that she will still help with our publicity posters, for Pete to regularly post round the village.

## CDLHS fund raising

## and two artists of Charing



Sample copy of tea  
towel map of  
Charing

Some time ago, CDLHS were kindly given an oil painting of Horace Barwick, a prolific, and accomplished artist, who sketched & painted many buildings & scenes in the Charing area, between 1830 - 1845. The portrait, and its frame, are in need of restoration, so it is currently with the Courtauld Institute of Art in London. As students at the Institute are carrying out the restoration, it will be at a preferential cost to CDLHS of £450+VAT, ie £540.

Peter Holman, who lived in Charing (Burleigh Road) was also an accomplished artist. One of his works is a unique and interesting painted map of Ashford and the surrounding area. The original map was created in 1965. Its style is very individual, and the map contains many fascinating details of the history of the area.

CDLHS have been given permission by Peter Holman's family to produce a special tea towel print of Peter's map, which we are selling to help raise funds for restoration of the Horace Barwick portrait.

**We are selling the tea towels for £8 each.**

Sketch of Horace  
Barwick



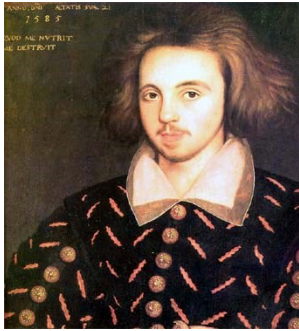
### Would you like to become more involved with the society?

It would be great to have one or two more people to join the committee. The committee is a friendly team, with lots of energy and enthusiasm, but would appreciate more members to generate even more ideas, and to share some of the 'chores'.



## Things to look forward to

Our next talk is  
on Thursday 12th March



**KIT MARLOWE OF CANTERBURY  
PLAYWRIGHT AND SPY**

by

Dr Geoff Doel

An exploration of Marlowe's  
associations with Kent  
and his dual careers as playwright  
and spy.

Then on 9th APRIL

**'CREATIVE  
DESTRUCTION'  
OR 'A WICKED AGE'?  
THE SUPPRESSION OF  
THE MONASTERIES,  
1536-40**



Dr Michael Carter

Was this one of the greatest cultural calamities in  
English history ?

## Outings

Sheila has already arranged a small outing in London, (which is now fully booked), and is hoping there will be another in March to the National Gallery, with Kerstin.

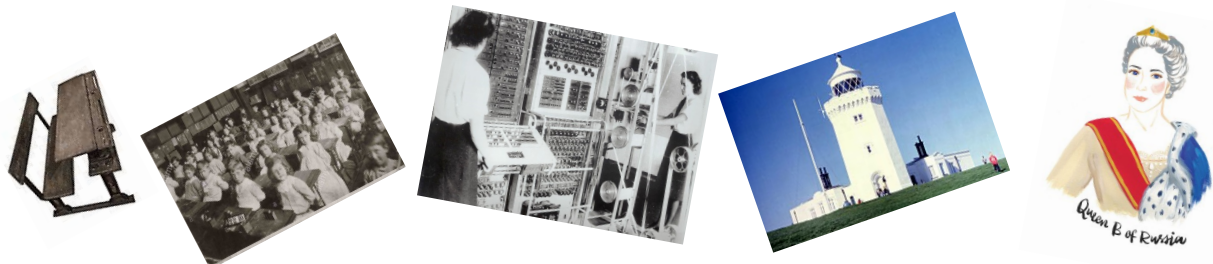
Sheila has also been working hard to finalise our **Cadman outing on June 3rd**.

Year after year, Sheila has managed to choose visits for us that have historic interest, (whilst being knee and hip friendly), and that appeal to 40 plus people. All for a reasonable charge, without making a loss! Quite a challenge! Her plans for this year will soon be revealed .....

## Looking back

### Past talks

Our talks this season have been on a wide range of topics; Victorian Schooldays, Bletchley, South Foreland Lighthouse and Catherine the Great, they have been consistently well attended, and well received.





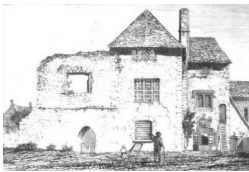
The Christmas quiz in the barn last year, was such a success that we've already booked the church barn for our 2020 Christmas social (December 10th), and the quiz topic decided, (no spoilers!)

The Ashford, barbershop quartet, 'The Notables', sang a well-chosen mixture of carols, ballads and humorous ditties, all to great effect.



## Over to our members .....

The last newsletter generated some interest and discussion, and I'd be really grateful if you'd join in with ideas and information, requests and corrections; please send direct to [newsletter@charinghistory.co.uk](mailto:newsletter@charinghistory.co.uk)



re: Horace Barwick's pictures. As most of you recognised, the first building is Charing Palace, and little has changed. The other scene was trickier, as this part of The High Street looks rather different now; it shows what was once

The Kings Head, now Becket House, a little of Wakeley House, and in the foreground two houses that have been rebuilt with Dutch gables, now 83 and 85 The High Street.

## continuing 'The History Behind Charing Road Names and Places'

**Arthur Baker playing field**, named after Mr Arthur Baker, a civil engineer who lived at Burleigh House. He was "an imposing, wise, kindly gentleman, and a great doer of good by stealth." He was reputed to be responsible for getting the Charing Guild of Players off to a healthy financial start.

**Blackberry Lane** possibly named as blackberries grow along the railway fence (??)

**Brenchley Mews**, built on the site of Charing Service Station. Charing Motor Company was established by Mr Arthur Brenchley, whose family had links to Charing dating back to 1750. He was a generous supporter of the community and village life, and was instrumental in the formation of the 1st Charing Boy Scouts.



## 'The History Behind Charing Road Names and Places' contd.

Many thanks to those who've contributed.

**Bowl Road** In 1484 the road was called 'Bolle Road'. 'Bolle' in middle English meant 'cup, or goblet', which seems apt, as the road leads to the Bowl Inn. Although the current building dates from 1512, it was originally built as a farmhouse: only becoming an alehouse in 1606. The original road went along the current footpath from the top of The Wynd to south of Fixings Warehouse on Charing Hill.

**Centenary Close** as it was built in 2000, this name was suggested by the chair of CPC at the time, Councillor Allan Dixon.

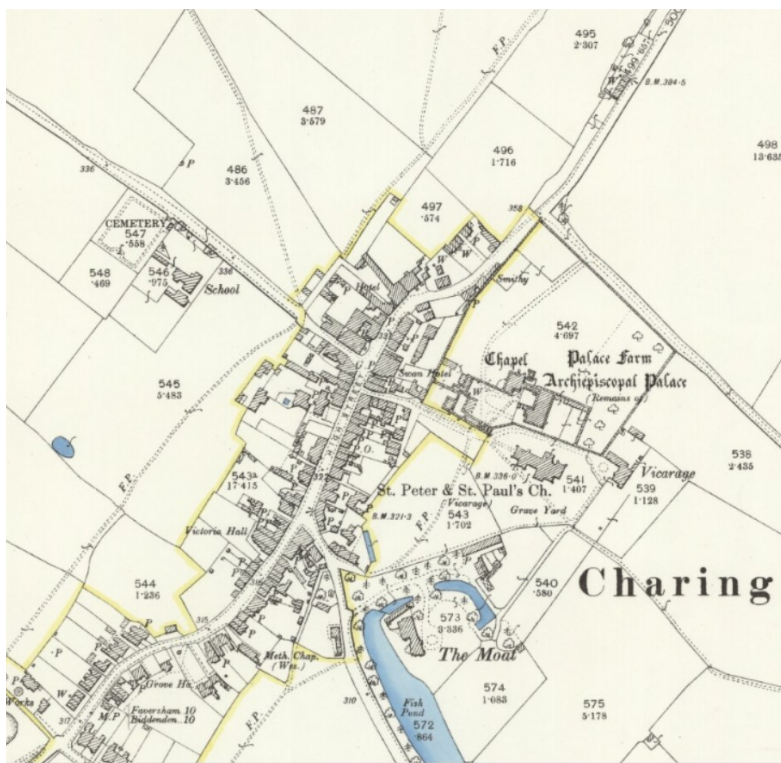
**Clearmount Park and Clearmount Way** were built on the site of Clearmount Mansion, which had been built in the 19th century.

**Clewards Meadow;** we have, so far, been unable to find the origin of this name. This was originally part of the Archbishops Palace lands. An 18<sup>th</sup> century map shows it as divided into two called Pond Yard and Old Barn Yard, so this suggests that Clewards was probably where the farm buildings of the Palace lay. In 1991 it was designated a village green in perpetuity. The stream at the bottom is fed from springs and comes out after running underground by the High Street.

If you've noticed any errors, or omissions in the above information, I'd be grateful if you'd let us know, so that our information can be corrected and updated. Many thanks.

[newsletter@charinghistory.co.uk](mailto:newsletter@charinghistory.co.uk)

## Charing Whispers



Some time ago in 'Charing Whispers', we asked for any information on a stream running under the High Street, also on High Street houses with wells.

Since then, we've found a map showing the positions of wells and pumps. To see the actual map go to <http://maps.nls.uk/view/103681421>

# Other Local History Society News & Talks

ASHFORD ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY DAY SCHOOL

14 March 2020

Our annual study day for 2020 will focus various aspects of geography and technology surrounding Kent's industrial heritage:

**14 March 2020 - 10.00am to 2.30pm**  
**Fee: £25**

**Willesborough Windmill, Ashford, TN24 0QG (parking access from  
Cornes Close, Lees Road)**

Our day will include topics around the development of industry and applied industrial technology:

- The commercial Thames: Tower Bridge to Gallions Reach
- The commercial Thames: Barking Creek to Yantlet Creek
- The Sittingbourne and Kemsley Light Railway
- Dover Transport Museum including its Norman Motorcycles

*Please bring a packed lunch –  
Hot and cold drinks available*

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TO ENSURE THAT WE HAVE ENOUGH  
PEOPLE TO RUN THE DAY

PLEASE PRE-ENROL

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*Hothfield  
History Society*

*Invites you to attend our next free public talk on:*

## **The Wreck Hunter: Battle of Britain and The Blitz**

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 7.30pm**

**Hothfield Village Hall**

Melody Foreman is an author of social history during the war years. Her new book includes a chapter about **Hothfield** and the dig for a Hurricane that crashed in 1940 on Home Farm. The tree that the Hurricane hit can still be seen today. Melody's new book is about the pioneering aviation archaeologist Terry Parsons who has dug more than 900 RAF and Luftwaffe wrecks in Kent and Sussex. Melody's illustrated talk will be about her new book and the Hothfield wreck and will include some artefacts.

Please come along to find out more and to ask questions.

**All welcome. Free admission and refreshments.**



We hold contact information of members, and interested people, to send them society news and information on local history. We do not share the information with third parties.

If you would rather not receive emails from us in future, please email

[Hon.Secretary@charinghistory.co.uk](mailto:Hon.Secretary@charinghistory.co.uk)