



Guide Lines

The *Occasional* Newsletter
of the
Winchester Area Tourist Guides Association

Issue of April 2017

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Item: 1	Title: Newsletter Submissions
Date: 31-3-2017	Contributor: Editorial/Compilation Team

Please send contributions to: watganewsletter@gmail.com which is a mail address accessible to everyone on the compilation team, and should thus not fall foul of annual holidays, sickness or IT failures creating information “black holes”. Please supply input, articles or notices in editable format. Plain text or Word would be preferred.

Item: 2	Title: WATGA Diary Dates
Date: 31-3-2017	Contributor: Clare Dixon

- Summer General Meeting Tuesday 6th June, 3pm in Alresford.
- Annual General Meeting Monday 25th September, 7pm, Guildhall Winchester.

Item: 3	Title: City of Winchester Trust – 2017 Walks Schedule
Date: 21-3-2017	Contributor: Christina Reid

Summer Walks 2017 - TrustNews Mar 17

18th May Thursday 18.00	1. Parchment Street and St Peter Street <i>Meet outside Boots on the High Street</i>	Clare Dixon
25th May Thursday 18.00	2. TBC <i>Meet at TBC</i>	George Saumarez Smith <i>Architect and Director Adam Architecture</i>
1st June Thursday 18.00	3. Dreaming the High Street and how it connects to the city <i>Meet at the Winchester Barracks fountain</i>	Stephen Harte <i>Retired Architect and Landscape Architect</i>
8th June Thursday 18.00	4. Walking around West Hill <i>Meet at the West Gate, High Street</i>	Richard Baker
15th June Thursday 18.00	5. TBC <i>Meet at TBC</i>	Rod Graham <i>Director, Design Engine Architects</i>
22nd June Thursday 18.00	6. St John's Winchester Charity <i>Meet under the arch of no. 32 Broadway, St John's South</i>	Clive Cook <i>Director, St John's Winchester Charity</i>
29th June Thursday 18.00	7. TBC <i>Meet at TBC</i>	TBC
6th July Thursday 18.00	8. Childhood memories - Phil at 90 <i>Meet under the Winchester Railway Station Clock - Walk in & around St Paul's and the Station</i>	Phil Yates <i>Local author, historian and Trust Member</i>
13th July Thursday 18.00	9. Hyde900 TBC <i>Meet at TBC</i>	David Spurling <i>Hyde900</i>
20th July Thursday 18.00	10. Winchester High Street from a planning & design point of view <i>Meet in Water Lane, by the entrance to the 'Black Bottle'</i>	Andrew Rutter <i>Retired Winchester City Council Conservation Officer and Trust Member</i>
27th July Thursday 18.00	11. The Building Stones of Winchester <i>Meet outside the West End of the Cathedral</i>	John Parker <i>Retired Geologist</i>
4th August Thursday 18.00	12. Barton Meadows 'The creation of Winchester's newest nature reserve' <i>Meet at end of Courtney Road, SO23 7ER</i>	Susan Simmonds <i>Assistant Education Officer, Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust</i>

Details and conditions for the summer walks:

- 1. Timings** All walks will **start** at 18.00 promptly.
- 2. Donation** of £3 to the Trust is requested from each person on each walk.
- 3. Booking:** Strongly advised to secure a place to avoid disappointment. Contact the Heritage Centre no later than midday the day before each walk. Email: secretary@cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk or telephone Winchester (01962) 851664. **Generally maximum 25 attendees for all walks unless stated otherwise.**
- 4. Walk 12 3rd August:** Additional payment of £4 for Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife trust requested from each person. Wear suitable footwear for a variety of surfaces. **Maximum 20 attendees for this walk only.**

Exclusion of liability of Trust: Neither the guide of each walk nor the Trust and its members shall be liable for any injury, accident or damage to person or property (including theft or other loss) during each walk to any person taking part in a walk whether a member of the Trust or not.

Item: 4	Title: Cathedral Update - Mortuary Chests and the Lady Chapel
Date: 31-3-2017	Contributor: Steve Heath

They're back! The restored and conserved Mortuary Chests are back in situ on top of Fox's Screen. What is not certain at present is whether the bones have been replaced. We have enquired and will get an update from the Cathedral.



The Lady Chapel is fully open, and looking as wonderful as ever.

Item: 5	Title: City Museum reopening
Date: 31-3-2017	Contributor: Clare Dixon

It is understood that the City Museum is re-opening "at the Easter Weekend", although precisely what that means eludes us. An enquiry has been sent and messages left but as yet no response, so if you are looking to visit or use the Museum please check in advance. We will try to get an update on the changes ready for the next issue of Guide Lines.

Item: 6	Title: City Mill South Downs Way marker & Repairs Appeal
Date: 31-3-2017	Contributor: Clare Dixon/Steve Heath

The City Mill has had planning permission approved for the installation of an official marker for the start/end of the South Downs Way. The monolith made of English Oak atop a stone plinth will be installed around the end of April. The 1.5m high monolith will declare "Winchester to Eastbourne 100 miles" and the top of the column will reflect topographical detail of the route showing the highs and lows. The City Mill staff have described how the route of the Way has already been amended and signage changed to lead walkers down the hill past the Black Boy, along the river to the City Bridge and the end of the walk at the City Mill, making it much more impressive than simply petering out in Colebrook Street.

For the repairs to the Mill, following flood damage, it is understood that there is a need to raise a further £100,000.

Item: 7	Title: Military Museums joint ticketing trial
Date: 31-3-2017	Contributor: Clare Dixon

Recognising that many will already know this, there are 6 Military Museums in Winchester:

- HorsePower, the Regimental Museum of The King's Royal Hussars

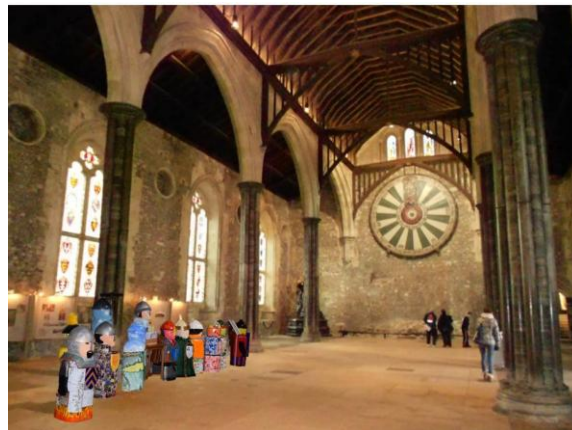
- The Royal Green Jackets (Rifles) Museum
- The Gurkha Museum
- The Rifles Collection
- The Royal Hampshire Regiment Museum
- The Guardroom Museum, the Museum of the Adjutant-General’s Corps

The RH, RGJ and Gurkha Museums charge entrance fees, the others are free. After Easter there will be a joint ticketing approach introduced for a trial period of 6 months; the tickets are being printed now, but as yet a firm introduction date has not been fixed. It is expected that the ticket will be valid for a single visit to each museum in the 6 months from purchase, and that the cost will be £8. Individual ticketing will continue in parallel.

Item: 8	Title: Great Hall – Gallery works and Barton Stacey Knights
Date: 31-3-2017	Contributor: Steve Heath

There will be works in the Gallery at the end of March/beginning of April but they will try to maintain access to the toilets.

From 31st March throughout Easter until the 23rd April the Barton Stacey knights are moving from the Hampshire Records Office to the Great Hall – becoming the Knights of the Round Table.... The Knights are our village creations and the Great Hall team are organising children’s activities around the knights for Easter so a good outing for the kids. They will also be visited by mini King Alf and Tom Floyd along with the new High Sheriff.



Hello from the Knights of Barton Stacey



For background information - 2016 was the 775th anniversary of the granting of the Charter for the Barton Stacey village fair by Henry III in 1241. The village put together a collection of Knights, based on the idea of the Magna Carta Barons in Salisbury in 1215. There are 19 knights in all, all created by or for village businesses, clubs or societies and to give you a flavour the 9 in the picture are (from the left) Judo Club, Village Shop, Swan Inn, Local History Group, Village Independent Players (VIPs), Lionel Hitchen Essential Oils, 2x Barton Stacey CofE Primary School, and the Jubilee Trad Jazz Band.

If you'd like to know more go to https://www.bartonstaceyfete.co.uk/?page_id=860

Item: 9	Title: Dame Elizabeth Shelley – Gift of Chalice to Winchester College
Date: 27-2-17	Contributor: Annette Lodge

Winchester College archivist Suzanne Foster has provided Annette with information about the story that Dame Shelley bequeathed a silver chalice to Winchester College at the dissolution of St Mary's Abbey. "Dame Elizabeth Shelley died in 1547 and did bequeath us a silver chalice and a carpet to be laid before the high altar. The chalice doesn't survive. It is thought that she was buried at the College as the costs of her funeral appear in their accounts. There is more about her here <http://www.oxforddnb.com/view/article/104416?docPos=2> and the text is copied into the attached document. You will see that there is an article about this abbess in the Proceedings of the Hampshire Field Club."



Shelley.docx

Item: 10	Title: Jane Austen's glasses?
Date: 4-4-17	Contributor: Vanessa Silcock

Jane Austen's portable writing desk was entrusted to the care of the British Museum. Inside there are 3 pairs of glasses, which according to family tradition were Jane's. It is not known if the glasses were really hers, or if they were prescription glasses. But, they have been examined to establish the strength of the lenses. Tests show they increased in strength from +1.75 to +3.25 and then +5.00. This means, if they were Jane's glasses, that she would have been experiencing difficulties in reading or writing by the time she died. It also raises more discussions about the cause of Jane's early death.

SOURCE: BBC news and British Library on line resources.

WATGA takes no responsibility for the accuracy of the information in this Newsletter. Please contact individual contributors with any queries.

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