



Guide Lines

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

Issue of October 2017

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Welcome to the October edition of Guide Lines, and thanks as always to those who have contributed and to Vanessa and Steve for pulling it together.

As I mentioned at the AGM – perhaps some of you have material from a Themed Tour which you would like to share with us all through this Newsletter? If you are anything like me, you collect far more material for your tours than you can ever use on the day. Amongst your fellow guides you have an interested audience who would love to hear all the results of your researches! Do put pen to paper (finger to keyboard maybe) and send contributions for the November edition to watganewsletter@gmail.com by 29th October.

Clare

Item: 1	Title: Quotes for the Cathedral
Date: 2017	Contributor: Elizabeth Newport

Elizabeth wrote in to say “I haven’t learnt much poetry since I was a child but I have now memorized, and regularly recite, a poem and a piece of prose when I take visitors round the Cathedral.”

On Jane Austen, the final stanza of *Jane’s Marriage*, by Rudyard Kipling:

*Jane lies in Winchester, blessed be her shade!
Praise the Lord for making her, and her for all she made.
And while the stones of Winchester - or Milsom Street - remain,
Glory, Love, and Honour unto England's Jane!*

The full poem can be read at http://www.kiplingsociety.co.uk/poems_janemarriage.htm

On Bishop Stephen Gardiner, from *Bring Up the Bodies* by Hilary Mantel:

“When Stephen comes into a room the furnishings shrink from him. Chairs scuttle backwards. Joint stools flatten themselves like pissing bitches. The woollen Bible figures in the king’s tapestries lift their hands to cover their ears.”

Item: 2	Title: Exhibition – The Itchen: From Source to Sea
Date: 28 Sep 2017	Contributor: Vanessa Silcock

The exhibition at Southampton Art Gallery ends on 25th November, 2017 and Vanessa reports

“I visited the Art Gallery in Southampton to see a lovely exhibition of work by Lorraine Morris and Lizzie McKellar. The exhibition is titled: 'The Itchen : from source to sea' and it brings to life the river's journey from Cheriton to Southampton Water. The exhibition has toured venues along the river's path, ending in Southampton! The artists use different mediums; Lizzie painting with oil on canvas in bright, vibrant colours and Lorraine using charcoal on paper. There is also some photographic work.

Both artists share a studio in Winchester near Black Wharf Bridge, where their work was created.

Item: 3	Title: What’s in a Name? [Winchester Bell Pull]
Date: 28 Sep 2017	Contributor: Steve Heath

Pauline’s pictures from the Views from Alresford and the Don Bryan Tour featured in last month’s Guide Lines included an image of a couple of door bells (as yet unpublished) and that got me looking at knockers and door bells, and the like – with a view to a research topic during the dark of the Winter.



Whilst reading I came across references to a Winchester Bell Pull. I regularly get asked “Is the Winchester Rifle from Winchester?” (no it isn’t), “is the Salisbury Steak from Salisbury?” (no it isn’t), “is the Beatles song Winchester Cathedral about Winchester?” (yes it is, but it isn’t by the Beatles).....but are Winchester Bell Pulls from Winchester? What distinguishes a Winchester bell pull from any other? Are they recognised standards?

I contacted the Managing Director of Priors Reclamation whose website states that their design has been faithfully copied from a period house in Winchester. Sadly they don’t know which house, simply that it was reclaimed from a front door in Winchester. They needed a name for it so that’s what it got called. There are no recognised standards for bells and Priors have all been named after places. The Winchester is just a different style from, for example, the Lichfield which is also in their range.

So I'm looking for feedback on 2 things please:

- firstly any notable knockers in Winchester, or bell pulls or presses; and
- secondly is there anything else that we as a community know about, that is called "Winchester", and if so why?

{Early response from Clare "re things called 'Winchester'. There is of course the Winchester bushel and, I see from the entry in Wikipedia about that, there is also a sort of glass bottle called a Winchester bottle. Who knew?" – Thank you Clare}

At least the bell pull has a better claim to Winchester than the rifle!

(it was named after Oliver Fisher Winchester, a shirt maker and politician with an eye to a good opportunity who had a great engineer called Benjamin Tyler Henry, whom I thought invented the Hoover).

Item: 4	Title: The Hampshire Hog Controversy
Date: 28 Sep 2017	Contributor: Colin Cook

Colin sent in an article he’s written, picking up on the controversy stoked by a recent letter in the Hampshire Chronicle about the ‘Hampshire Hog’!



Photo: WCC

Hog or Hoggett?

This letter in the Hampshire Chronicle dated 28 September 2017 takes issue over the commissioning by Hampshire County Council of a bronze statue of a pig by David Kemp to commemorate the 100th anniversary of its formation in 1889.

From my notes of my Green Badge Course in 2005:

“The Hog is life-size and cast in bronze, shown in a natural pose on a base of cobbles, softened by ivy, as if he was just walking past, a deliberate effect to allow public access to the hog where you are encouraged to touch. “

Here are my notes on Kemp for the special tours I was commissioned to do with Judy in 2011 to link with a Modern Art exhibition at The Gallery:-

David Kemp was born in London in 1945. On leaving school he went to sea as a midshipman in the Merchant Navy for four years. He attended Farnham Art School and Wimbledon School of Art from 1968 to 1972, and moved to West Cornwall in 1975.

'Hog' or 'Hoggett' - Name can be traced back to *Belgae* and first pictured on coins in AD40. More recent reference in 1709 poem to *Hamphirites* developing skill in taming them. ‘Hampshire Hog’ in dictionary by 1790 meaning Hampshire man. Also hog features included in ‘Trusty Servant’.

The hog must go

SIR: Every time I go past our headquarters of the county council I see the hideous shape of a boar looking at me standing in front of the building.

I believe mistakenly our councillors, have thought that the term hogget is a pig. It is not, it is a sheep of between two and three years old, chosen for its fine wool and darker meat, than a younger animal.

Now Hampshire being and was a main producer of wool and meat from sheep, I can see why those from farther afield would of called those from Hampshire hogs, short for hogget, not as shown a pig. Being born and bred in Hampshire I do not wish to be tied with a pig, but instead by a fine Hampshire Down sheep that grazed on our downlands of Hampshire and still do. Hampshire is once again becoming prominent with sheep on our hills and downlands.

Can I ask our councillors that the pig is taken away, melted down and and a statue of a fine adult Hampshire Down ram with its fine horns is put in place instead.

Then those who visit our city can see the true picture of Hampshire as the main producer of fine wool from a hogget. And those in Hampshire are hogs, but from the term for a sheep not a pig.

**Chris Sparkes,
Alresford Road,
Morn Hill,
Winchester**

Kemp works in a variety of materials including timber, steel and bronze, but is best known for his assemblage sculpture. He lives and works amongst the ruins of the ancient tin mines on the Tinnars Coast near St Just in West Cornwall. His collections of 'Relics and Reconstructions from the Late Iron Age' have often been exhibited as spurious museum pieces. His assemblage work has been compared to the work of archaeologists and ethnologists, is often humorous and makes interesting comparisons between mythology and technology, past and future.

David Kemp's involvement in Public Art begun when he was artist in residence in Grizedale Forest in Cumbria in 1981. Here he learned the important links between site and content, which he has applied to the many large scale, site-specific sculptures he has built around Britain in the last twenty five years. In the eighties he built a series of large 'post-industrial' sculptures in the North East, such as 'King Coal' on the Durham moors. In 1987 he built the 'Navigators', a very large bronze and steel kinetic sculpture on the Thames near London Bridge.

NAVAL NURSES – David Kemp

He says on his website - "I make things out of things, big things, little things, old things and new things. I like to recycle things, and find new uses for things that have been thrown away. Some things say something about their surroundings, and other things become something else."

For more than 20 years, David Kemp has lived and worked on the exposed Atlantic coast of West Cornwall (*links with Hepworth etc*) - inspired by the natural landscape, and by the remains of the tin-mining industry carried out there since medieval times. He finds material for his work in rich seams of junk, appearing here and there at boot fairs, but adding up, in the imagination, to something like that mysterious productive heap of dust in Dickens' *Our Mutual Friend*. In fact there is an almost Dickensian breadth of vision, richness of character and sharpness of observation in Kemp's work. David Kemp's work is serious fun: serious, because his intention is to tackle our folly and or materialist excesses and fun because he is a master of life-enhancing humour. Driven by his own apocalyptic and subversive vision, he makes sculpture from the disregarded bits and pieces left by successive consumer boom. These remains point out the awful truth – that we value trash and are seduced again and again by the trumped-up new. Technology that is phoney, or only half understood, is grasped at for answers to our needs. In pursuit of the largest thing, it becomes impossible to tell real technological advances from the dead-ends. This point is made for this exhibition particularly by reference to electricity. The rush to harness the power of frog's legs, to make hair stand on end or capture lightning were all so far beside the point – of course we know now, but in Kemp's alternative world they have a different and more telling relevance. By making what might have been, or should have been, invented he mirrors universal human weakness.

<http://www.davidkemp.uk.com/works.htm>



So, you can take your choice between Hog and Hoggett. Certainly “The Trusty Servant” is depicted a hog, but we also know that in the 14th century Winchester was one of only 10 places in England granted the ‘Royal Staple’ by the king, recognising the county and city as pre-eminent for the quality of its wool for sale abroad.

As to the removal of the sculpture, I am not sure that given the evidence we have of David Kemp’s oeuvre, perhaps it would be best to let ‘sleeping pigs lie’, or more accurately - stand!

Colin Cook 28 September 2017



Item: 5	Title: Diary Dates
Date: 4 Oct 2017	Contributor: Clare Dixon

WATGA Dates for the diary

- Tuesday 7th November, 2pm, General Meeting at the City Mill, Winchester
 - Guest speaker: Ric Weeks, Manager, City Mill
- Tuesday 14th November, 10.30am, Social Media training session, 25 Egbert Road (please let Lorraine know if you would like to come: lorraine.estelle3@gmail.com)
- Tuesday 9th January 2018, WATGA New Year Lunch, Masonic Centre, Alresford Road, Winchester

Guide Lines Dates

- November Issue
 - submit copy by weekend 28/29 Oct 2017
 - publish over weekend 4/5 Nov 2017
- December Issue
 - submit copy by weekend 25/26 Nov 2017
 - publish over weekend 2/3 Dec 2017

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

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