



Guide Lines

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

Issue of September 2017

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In an effort to introduce a semblance of being organised we plan to put out Guide Lines the first weekend of every month, and the “deadline for copy” will be the last weekend of the previous month – see the Diary Dates at Item 12 for forecast ‘til end 2017. Clare

Item: 1	Title: Mr Kipling Writes Exceedingly Good Poems
Date: 26 Jul 2017	Contributor: Denis Howe

Denis kindly wrote in to thank the Editor and remarked that the image in the header reminded him of one of Kipling's poems!

I KEEP six honest serving-men
(They taught me all I knew);
Their names are What and Why and When
And How and Where and Who.

I send them over land and sea,
 I send them east and west;
 But after they have worked for me,
 I give them all a rest.

Thank you Denis

Item: 2	Title: "A Tour of the Remains of Hyde Abbey"
Date: 8 Aug 2017	Contributor: Judith Hoskins

In early August the TIC received delivery of the new "A Tour of the Remains of Hyde Abbey" leaflet produced by Hyde900 and the Friends of Hyde Abbey Garden. It is an 8 page booklet with lots of information. It is free, and it says:

"This booklet provides visitors with an itinerary which covers the main features of the Hyde Abbey precincts so as to give insights into this location of national historical significance. In many respects it requires an act of imagination to fully appreciate the site. But the watchword as you wander around the area is to look closely at what remains despite the destruction – you'll be surprised and delighted by what you see."

If you didn't get one then rush to the TIC, if they've all gone best find someone who got one.

Item: 3	Title: Industrial Heritage on a Chesil Walk
Date: 31 Aug 2017	Contributor: Clare Dixon

I am sure you find, as I do, that you learn a lot from people who come on your tours. A Chesil Tunnel tour I led in July was no exception. Two participants pointed things out to me which I had never noticed before, despite having walked past them many times.

1) The first was on the footpath up towards St Giles Hill, just above the Rising Sun pub (opposite the Station Master's House, for those who know their Chesil Railway history). A lady pointed out that the iron gates which guard the various footpaths leading up and around the Hill are all marked as having been made by Jewell and Son, City Foundry, Winchester. A little research on the internet since has revealed that the iron gates and railings date from when the public park was first created in the 1870s, the land having been bought from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. They had inherited responsibility for it from the Bishops of Winchester and were proposing to sell off parts for housing. This is also when most of the trees were planted.



I found some additional information about Jewell and Son in a report by the Winchester Model and Engineering Society, who surveyed Durngate Mill just before it was demolished in 1966:

One interesting result of the survey was the close connection revealed between the mill and the City Foundry, which stood in Lower Brook Street. Much of the machinery had, in fact, been cast only a few hundred yards away from its final home and it is perhaps significant that a small provincial foundry was capable of producing sophisticated castings of this nature. The firm was founded about the middle of the last century by Philip Charles Jewell, whose initials appear on much cast iron work in the city. Prior to its closure in 1908, the foundry undertook general engineering work, including the repair of the beam engines at Gamier Road Pumping Station and the manufacture of axles and axle boxes for the Great Western Railway.

See : <http://www.hantsfieldclub.org.uk/publications/hampshirstudies/digital/1960s/vol24/Reynolds&others.pdf>

2) A drainage channel runs alongside the same path after it has turned right at the top of the first rise and a keen-eyed gentleman on my Chesil walk spotted that some of the tiles which make up the channel also carry a maker's mark and date: Joseph Hamblet, West Bromwich, 1893.



Another rummage around on the internet has revealed that Joseph Hamblet was the largest brick making firm in West Bromwich in the late 1800s – a time when there were 7 other firms in the town. They specialised in ‘blue’ engineering bricks which were much prized by eg railway and bridge builders because of their durability. The firm ceased trading in 1915 as a result of the shortage of labour and fuel caused by the 1st WW. The date of 1893 for the drainage channel is significant – on the other side of the path is a steep drop to the site of the old Chesil station (now the multi-storey car park) and there was a major landslip onto the railway track here in 1891. Was the drainage channel created as part of the remedial works?

(I would never have believed a few years ago that I would ever write an article about a drainage channel. That’s what guiding does to you. I’ll just go and dig out my anorak)

Item: 4	Title: Early Christmas Shopping
Date: 12 Aug 17	Contributor: Judith Hoskins

though doubtless some of the better organised have finished already, you may be interested in this gem from Judith as an early Christmas present?!

The Winchester atlas is due for publication in September. Having bought the one on York for her Dad, Judith will tell you that it was amazing, and so this new release for Winchester promises to be very exciting for all us! It may still be available to pre-order from the publisher, Oxbow Books, at a saving of £15 - <http://www.oxbowbooks.com/oxbow/winchester.html>

Item: 5	Title: TIC Mail Box
Date: 9 Aug 2017	Contributor: Steve Heath

A concern has been raised by a few people about mail sent to the TIC, and who can see it. Basically there is one mail box and its name is Tourism@winchester.gov.uk and when anyone writes to you from the TIC this is the mail box they are using. The TIC staff all have access to this same e-mail. If you are happy and reassured don’t read any further.

The confusion arises however because there are properties associated with the sender which cause the recipients mail system to associate the mail with an individual, and a name may be displayed for example JULIE Berry. When mail is sent to JULIE Berry it is actually visible to all TIC staff and the first to get to it will action it, and there is no danger of mail sitting unread if the individual is not in the TIC. Shimples!

Item: 6	Title: Regency in Winchester
Date: 29 Jul 2017	Contributor: Jelena Allen

Jelena took this picture of Sue de Salis with her Regency group and thought that it may be of interest. The people in Regency costume were an international group taking part in a weekend organised by the Hampshire Regency Dancers and their tours were co-ordinated by our own Geraldine Buchanan



Item: 7	Title: King Charles I in Winchester
Date: 9 Sep 2017	Contributor: Colin Cook

[Colin Cook sent in an article which tells a rather interesting story about a well-known painting in the King Charles Hall of the man himself!]

King Charles I was brought to Winchester as a prisoner in December of 1648. On his journey from the Isle of Wight to London for ultimate trial and execution, the king spent the night in the Westgate. Despite the times and the king's position, the Mayor and Alderman of Winchester received Charles I with all dutiful respect and presented him with the keys and mace of the city. They addressed him in a speech full of affection but upon being reminded that the House had declared all who should address the King to be traitors, the officials protested their ignorance of the will of the House and dispersed. The king continued his journey to London the next morning.



There has been an empty space on the wall in the corner of the King Charles' Hall where a painting of him normally hangs. The plaque beneath records that it was a gift to the Corporation from Mrs Thomas Fleming and its has long been considered as by Sir Peter Lely. It has now been returned after cleaning to its usual position but as to its provenance, here is what Ross Turle of Hampshire Cultural Trust has to say about what has been revealed.

“The oil painting of Charles I that has been returned from cleaning has a story to tell. It had already been noted that Charles' pose was the same as a known Peter Lely painting. Cleaning work revealed that the painting of Charles was painted over a previous portrait of Henry Jermain Earl of St Albans. *[See photo taken during cleaning of the original lettering at the foot of the painting]*



Henry Jermain (Jermyn) was a Member of Parliament and staunch Royalist in the English Civil War, Lord Chamberlain and also a knight of the garter. A portrait of Jermyn in his garter robes is owned by the National Trust and is on display in Kedleston Hall, Derbyshire.

In that portrait, Jermyn is in exactly the same pose as this portrait and his hair conforms to the area of paint around Charles' head, a staff has also been painted out. Further research will be undertaken to discover who the unsung artist might be. The quality of work still does not look to be Peter Lely but could be from the school of.”

Ross Turle
Curator of Social and Industrial History
Hampshire Cultural Trust 5 September 2017

Item: 8	Title: Views of Alresford
Date: Jun 2017	Contributor: Pauline Shier

Back in June Pauline took some lovely images whilst on the tour led by Don Bryan. She wanted to share them with you. There were a couple of others which look like they should spark little articles in their own right – so we’re saving those for later. Looks like it was a great day.



Item: 9	Title: Good Old Fashioned Manners
Date: 7 Aug 17	Contributor: Lis Moll

Lis Moll wrote in to the editor to share a delightful letter from one of our old guides regarding a tour swap for the Royal Hotel some 15 years ago. Gerald Gledhill was a popular guide, former bank manager, one of the old guard and very formal and correct. How formalities have changed!

MR. G. L. GLEDHILL,
KANAYA
NEW FARM ROAD
ALRESFORD SO14 3GJ
24TH FEBRUARY 2004

TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE,
THE GUILDEALL,
WINCHESTER.

DEAR SIR,

CHANGE OF GUIDE "ROYAL HOTEL WINCHESTER" 27TH MARCH 2004

WOULD YOU KINDLY NOTE THAT MRS. ELIZABETH MOLL HAS TAKEN
OVER THIS TOUR FROM MR. G. L. GLEDHILL ON SATURDAY 27TH MARCH 2004.

A STOP IS NOT ENVISAGED AS MR. GLEDHILL IS TO ATTEND A
MEETING IN LANCASHIRE ON THIS DATE ON BEHALF OF THE WINCHESTER
GUIDES.

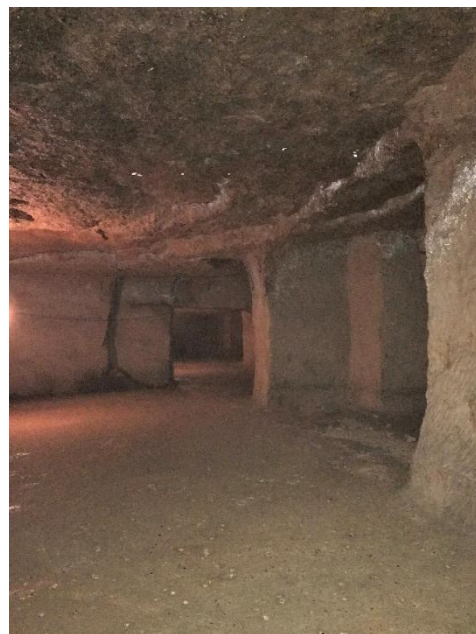
YOURS SINCERELY,

G. L. GLEDHILL

Item: 10	Title: Beer Quarry
Date: 31 Aug 2017	Contributor: Clare Dixon

The idea of quarrying beer may sound attractive, but alas in this context Beer is a place and not a drink. A village on the coast of South Devon, to be precise, near Sidmouth. Staying nearby on holiday this summer, and looking for something to do on a cold, wet day, I hit upon the perfect family outing. A visit to some cold, wet caves.

Stone was quarried at Beer from Roman times until the early C20th, and the resulting caves now stretch a long way back into the hillsides. Our guide on the hour-long tour was able to point out the sections worked in different historical periods by the different shapes of the pillars and arches, a bit like above-ground architecture. Beer stone, a type of limestone, was prized because it is saturated with water when first quarried which makes it comparatively easy to carve. Also it has few fossil ‘imperfections’. On exposure to the air, it dries to a creamy white stone and becomes up to 5 times harder, so that it will last for centuries. Another advantage was the coastal position of the quarries, enabling the stone to be transported by water.



Many important buildings have therefore been made in Beer stone, including parts of the Tower of London, Westminster Abbey, much of Exeter cathedral and – can you feel it coming? – Winchester too. The remodelling of Winchester cathedral in gothic style under William of Wykeham was largely carried out in Beer stone, and the C15th Great Screen behind our High Altar was quoted as one of the best examples of the intricate carving which can be achieved with this high-grade stone.

Apparently Exeter Cathedral is looking at the practicalities of reopening one of the quarries at Beer to take out a limited amount of stone for repairs. Does anyone know where the stone comes from which is used to repair Winchester cathedral these days?

Item: 11	Title: DVLHS – A History of RHCH
Date: 11 Sep 2017	Contributor: Steve Heath

The Local History Society here in the Dever Valley has a Lecture coming up that may be of interest to some. They're a very inclusive lot, you just turn up and pay at the door.



Plagues, Pilgrims and Politics A History of Royal Hampshire County Hospital



**A talk by Dr Andrew Oswell
Archivist and Head of Education**

**East Stratton Village Hall
Tuesday 17th October 8pm**

All welcome

£3 at the door

Item: 12	Title: Diary Dates
Date: 11 Sep 2017	Contributor: Clare Dixon

WATGA Dates for the diary

- Monday 25th September, 7pm, WATGA Annual General Meeting, Guildhall, Winchester
 - Guest speaker: Mark King, Chair of the British Guild of Tourist Guides

- Tuesday 7th November, 2pm, General Meeting at the City Mill, Winchester
 - Guest speaker: Ric Weeks, Manager, City Mill

- Tuesday 9th January 2018, WATGA New Year Lunch, Masonic Centre, Alresford Road, Winchester

Guide Lines Dates

- October Issue
 - submit copy by weekend 30 Sep/1 Oct 2017
 - publish over weekend 7/8 Oct 2017
- 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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