

The Frenchay Tuckett Society
Autumn 2015 Newsletter

Registered Charity No. 1066961
www.frenchaymuseumarchives.co.uk

October 8th

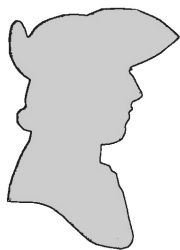
The Hatters' Trail

Tony Harding takes us on a virtual walk around the hatting industry in Winterbourne and Frampton Cotterell. Hatting was a major industry here for over 100 years, and has left its mark on the landscape



November 12th

The Tuckett Family



Alan Freke tells the story of the Tucketts, a Quaker family that were very prominent in the village from 1800 until 1928. They did much to shape the village we know today. *This is to mark the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Frenchay Tuckett Society*

January 14th

Ellen Georgiana Tanner



Kate Newnham from Bristol Museum tells the story of a remarkable former resident of Frenchay Park who travelled widely as an archaeologist, and was

elected a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society in 1913.

The Sawyer Memorial Lecture

**All talks are in the Quaker Meeting House,
Beckspool Road, and start at 7.30pm.
Admission is £2**

Museum News

First the good news: we have had our National Accreditation status with the Arts Council renewed after our five-year review. It was a daunting task, undertaken by a core of volunteers over six-months, with much help from Karin Walton of Bristol Museum, who is our Museum Mentor, Linda Coode, the SGC Heritage Officer, and Julie Reynolds, the Arts Council's Regional Development Officer. This status ensures we are operating to national standards, and significantly it opens doors to grants! A big thanks to all concerned.

Now the less good news: the museum purchase has still not happened. The Section 106 Agreement signed last December between NBT and SGC had the transfer of the museum's freehold as one of the provisions. Earlier this year there was an offer from NBT for us to buy the freehold directly from them, but this floundered after long messy negotiations. So it's back to plan A, and NBT selling it to SGC, who in turn have undertaken to pass it on to us. The deadline is early December, but it's already been extended by 6 months, so who knows?

Meanwhile, it's business as usual. We have installed a temporary toilet behind the museum, but any further alterations are pointless until we own the building, otherwise it may be money wasted.

If there is a significant development, we will put it on the website.

Visiting Exhibitions

Currently there is a display of local paintings, mostly by George Harris, who, with his brother Henry, produced hundreds of paintings of local scenes around 100 years ago. The display has been mounted by Paul Kembery (some of the pictures are for sale) with the addition of some pictures from our own collection, including a sketch of Frenchay Park House by Jack Russell, the cricketer turned artist.

During October and November Winterbourne Medieval Barn is expecting to mount a display. This local 14th Century landmark is run by a charitable trust, who have made the Barn very much a part of the local scene, mounting many events such as Orchard Harvest Day, and even opera!

***The museum is open - Wednesdays
1- 4pm, Saturdays and Sundays 2-5pm.
Admission is free.***

Last opening this year is Sun. 29th November,
and we reopen Wed. 6th January 2016

P.T.O

General News

AGM

Our short AGM in May marked the retirement from the committee of Hazel Copsey. Hazel was our Custodian Co-ordinator for many years, and was always a lively presence at meetings. We would like to thank Hazel for her years of service.

Hazell Thomas was elected to the committee, although she had already been very active in updating the museum's catalogue, and been co-opted earlier. Welcome to Hazell.

The post-AGM slot was enlivened by Dave Taylor who, dressed in the manner of a 18th Century Indian, gave us a talk on the "Indian Wars" in North America. He had found a Frenchay connexion, when two ladies from Frenchay Quaker Meeting travelled to Easton in Pennsylvania in the 1760s.

Rev. Hugh Kinred M.C.

In the last newsletter we told you about the bravery of Rev. Hugh Kinred, who had resigned as curate in Frenchay to join the Glo'sters as an officer. The national press' interest in him had been kindled by the auction in London earlier this year of the body armour that saved his life during his act of bravery in 1916. The Royal Armouries Museum in Leeds has been in touch as they had bought Kinred's armour, and they were delighted that we could supply them with our little booklet about him. It may be possible to borrow the body armour at some time in the future to display in Frenchay – watch this space. If you haven't read his story see the leaflet in the museum or visit, frenchaymuseumarchives.co.uk/Archives/PagesBiography/Kinred-Hugh.htm

Hospital Items

During the closure of the hospital many items appeared on our doorstep, or were brought to the museum by staff who had been told to bin items, but they thought they should be saved. We prepared a list of over 40 items, which ranged from a microscope presented to the Hospital School to mark the Queens coronation, by way of a stained glass window and a section of wall, to a Teddy Bear! NBT have now formally passed ownership of these items to the museum to regularise the situation.

Museum Custodians

In June the custodians enjoyed their annual garden visit, and cream tea, and we are grateful to those who hosted the garden visits. In August and again in September, custodians had a guided walk around the village, which was very popular.

We always welcome more custodians, so if you are interested in coming along and finding out more, call Margaret Bulmer on 0117 9569324 for an informal, no obligation, chat. Whether you help once a month, or once a year, you will be welcome.

South Glos. Discovery Festival

There are many events listed in the festival (see southglos.gov.uk/discover) or leaflets are available in the museum. Of special interest are, Sun 20th Sept at 2.30pm a **Treasure Hunt** starting from the museum – free, with prizes!!

Sat 17th Oct. at 10.30am **Frenchay Hospital's Hidden History** a talk by Alan Freke in Winterbourne Library – free, but booking suggested.

Mon 26th Oct at 7.30pm **JS Fry & Sons – a Rough History** a talk by Alan Freke in Yate Library - £3, but booking suggested.

Wed 29th Oct at 7.30pm **Cleve Hill VAD Hospital** a talk by Roger Angerson in Downend Library - £3, but booking suggested.

Hospital Photographic Project

The photographic project that started some eighteen-months ago to capture images of all hospital buildings has produced an archive of nearly 1500 photographs. This is aimed at providing future generations with a means of looking back, just as we today value views of lost Frenchay buildings captured by photographers in times past. However, they have already been useful to a contractor working for NBT, who needed photographs for planning purposes.

Vintage Vehicle Day

Our Vintage Vehicle Day in July was a great success with sunshine all day, and a record number of exhibitors and visitors. There were behind the scenes problems with drains and electricians in the museum, but they didn't spoil our visitors day! A big "Thank You" to the catering group and their suppliers, who provided a splendid service all day.

Next year's event is scheduled for July 16th, but whether it will take place depends on who owns the car park then...

Contacts

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