

January and February meetings

Wonderful photographs of old Doncaster places and people, some dating back to the 1880s, were shown at the January meeting during the presentation by Malcolm Barnsdale and Philip Langford. The February School Meal evening saw members relishing sausage and mash, chocolate pudding with pink custard and non-alcoholic punch*. Costumes (e.g. school girls and boys, headmaster, gym mistress, dinner ladies, caretaker), distractions (e.g. 'pet rat', catapult) and a school bell needing to be rung to restore a semblance of order, enlivened the successful evening. Thanks to all involved in its organisation.



Summer Visit

Peter Moody has made arrangements for our summer visit to the Royal Armouries in Leeds on Thursday, 1 June. The coach will leave Tickhill at 10 a.m. and leave Leeds at 4 p.m. The cost of the coach fare to members is £10 (provided the 48 seater coach can be filled). Admission to the Royal Armouries is free. There is the possibility of a guided tour to certain parts of the museum which can be arranged on arrival.

Hall Stories



The next Occasional Paper 'Hall Stories: aspects of life in Alverley Hall, Loversall Hall and St Catherine's Hall' is now published price £2. Alverley Hall, whose first owner, William Dixon, is shown left in a memorial sculpture, has not survived, the other two halls have, but both have seen changes in their use. The Paper looks at the lives of the families who built the halls and those who subsequently lived in them, as well as showing how their use changed when large mansions were no longer needed as family homes. Situated less than two miles apart, the halls' stories reflect some major landmarks in our history, from the impact of world wars to the growth of the coal industry and the changing attitudes to medical care. The paper will be on sale at our meetings and at KSM thanks to Linda, Lindsey and Claire.

Local History Fair

This year's Local History Fair will be held at Doncaster Museum on 22 April from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Our Society will have a stand as usual, staffed by Lesley Nicholson and Roger Ranson. Seven banners will be launched at the Fair featuring WW1 stories from seven local history societies. Apart from our Society, Conisbrough, Hatfield, Mexborough, Thorne, Friends of Doncaster Mansion House and Friends of Hyde Park Cemetery are represented. Our banner will return to Tickhill after display at the Museum. The Fair will be the first of a series of events to mark Doncaster Heritage Festival 2017 which runs until 7 May. See website <www.doncaster.gov.uk/heritagefestival> for more details.

Committee News

Keeping up with the times, an App is in preparation to guide a WW1 walking tour of Tickhill. The App will specifically include photographs and information about how places were associated with WW1.

'Black and British: a forgotten history' by David Olusoga

This book, which accompanied a series of BBC TV programmes broadcast at the end of last year, is a powerful reminder of the diversity of our society over many centuries. How does this relate to the history of this area? If we look at Tickhill Parish Burial Register's entry for 11 September 1837, it records that James Tine (emancipated slave-negro) was buried in St Mary's churchyard in a single grave with two other paupers. How did James come to be in Tickhill? Where was he enslaved and where did his family originate? Perhaps a slave owner brought James to England or, on emancipation in America or the Caribbean, James decided to migrate here.

*Non-alcoholic punch

Several people requested the recipe. Here it is to serve 160 people so 1/2, 1/4, or 1/8 quantities as required. 32 flat tbsps soft brown sugar, 16 litres apple juice, 2 litres cranberry juice, 2 litres pineapple juice, 1 bottle 250ml lemon concentrate, 1 bottle 250ml lime concentrate. (Mint/cloves/cinnamon in a bag hung on pan if wanted.) Mix all together, heat gently DO NOT LET BOIL.

NEW SNIPPETS - Financial challenges

The articles which accompany this Newsletter deal with three local people who each faced financial challenges: Sir William Fraunk, John Winks and the Rev. Townley Gardner. The items can be found in the snippets section of the website.