



# Tickhill & District Local History Society Newsletter

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[www.tickhillhistorysociety.org.uk](http://www.tickhillhistorysociety.org.uk)

[www.tickhilldiscoveritspast.org.uk](http://www.tickhilldiscoveritspast.org.uk)

## January and February meetings

Sue Allan, shown right in costume as a pilgrim from the Plymouth Colony, shared her recent research into Mayflower pilgrim Susanna White-Winslow, revealing family connections with Tickhill and surrounding communities. Through discovering wills and letters in Lincolnshire Archives Sue found, for example, that Susanna's first husband William White came from Wisbech and Susanna's mother was the sister of Edward Pettinger, a deputy bailiff at Tickhill Castle and her father, Richard Jackson, taught at Tickhill Grammar School. Sue has published her research in *In search of Mayflower Pilgrim Susanna White Winslow*, Domtom Publishing Ltd, 2018.



Brian Sprakes' talk on St Mary's earliest stained glass, in the windows on the south wall, helped to make sense of the many fragments replaced after the original windows were smashed during the Reformation and again during the Civil War and its aftermath. Some of the fragments, left, show an angel holding the top of a curtain. (Thanks to Mike Goddard for the photograph.)

## 'Friary Farm: My childhood home'

Our latest Occasional Paper has been written by Jean Nicholson who grew up at Friary Farm where her father was a tenant farmer. Jean describes life in the farmhouse without mains electricity, water or sewerage. A phone was only installed after a fire destroyed the straw and cereal crops in the Dutch barn. With her older sister Kathleen and brother John, Jean's childhood was the envy of her friends with plenty of scope for play as well as helping with many household and farming tasks. Jean is the third author of an Occasional Paper to have received the 'Constant Effort' shield at the local school (the others were Jessie Newborn and Ron Hill) where she later became a teacher. The Paper, with colour photographs, price £2, is on sale at our meetings and at Castlegate Cards.

## Constant Effort shield

The shield was the idea of Edwin Robinson (of Weardale House) who presented it to the first recipient, Ron Hill, in 1925. Jean Nicholson née Shipley was the last recipient in 1941. In 1940 the winner was Doreen Hartley née Taylor who is shown left with the shield. Steve Payne took this photograph of Doreen in February 2019 a few weeks before her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. It was the first time Doreen had seen the shield since she left the local school and it clearly meant a great deal to her to be reunited with it. Doreen is a regular attender at our meetings and over the years has been a huge help in providing local knowledge and photographs for our publications. When awarded the shield, Doreen was also given a medallion, right, as a permanent keepsake.



## Medieval manuscripts

For a new website drawing on collections in the British Library and the Bibliothèque Nationale de France look at [bl.uk/medieval-english-french-manuscripts](http://bl.uk/medieval-english-french-manuscripts). Not only is there a selection of illuminated manuscripts from 700-1200 arranged thematically but also articles, a glossary and brief videos on the making of manuscripts including how to select feathers and cut quill pens.

The remainder of the Newsletter can be found in the snippet section under the following headings:

- Leech Finders
- The dedication and orientation of Tickhill St Mary's: Part 1
- An unusual steam-powered vehicle