



# BISHOP'S WALTHAM MUSEUM

## Newsletter for the Volunteers and Friends of the Museum Winter 2022/23 Issue 31

Editor: Tony Kippenberger

### A message from the Chair of Trustees, Roy Stainton

It has been a productive and exciting year. We have welcomed over 3000 visitors to the Museum and their donations have increased our funds, which are healthy as a result. We partnered with the Bishop's Waltham Society and the Town Team to sponsor the Treaty of Waltham weekend and even received a small profit in return. As you will know, the event was voted the most successful Community event in Hampshire for 2022, of which we are all justly proud.

We have co-opted two more Trustees, Allison McNally and Rob Romer, both of whom have already shown their enthusiasm and merit. They join Penny Copeland, our most knowledgeable Collections Manager, Nick Whitehead, our Treasurer, who not only does a thorough job of keeping the accounts but carries out a number of other important tasks to maintain the Museum, Dawn Woodsford who manages the various activities of our Volunteers (on whom we heavily rely) and Gill Williams, our very competent Secretary. Tony Kippenberger is a Trustee who provides an excellent liaison with the Bishop's Waltham Society and Josie Wood is an observer from the Parish Council who provides valuable advice and direction. We are looking forward to your approval at our AGM (to be held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April in the Church Hall at 7.30 pm) when you will be invited to vote and confirm your choice of Trustees for 2023.

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Our relationship with English Heritage is of a high order and we work well with them to ensure that we are able and reliable tenants. In return, they deal promptly with any tenancy problems we might have and are appreciative of the tasks we carry out for them, such as opening and closing the grounds (many thanks particularly to volunteers Gill Atkins and Anita Taylor), litter picking and watching out for any concerns there might be.

We have spoken about our intention to build a scale model of the town, set in the mid-nineteenth century. Progress has been slow, but it is not forgotten. We have made a number of contacts which we need to bring together and we are hopeful that we can take advantage of a scheme offered by KPMG whereby they permit employees to spend a day per month working with an approved charity. We have passed the first phase with KPMG and they have distributed details of our requirements for their staff to make a choice. We are hoping that a suitably interested candidate will come forward.

# A note for volunteers – from Dawn Woodford, Volunteer Co-ordinator

The museum had another successful season, many thanks as always to our loyal band of volunteers. As Roy says, we welcomed over 3,000 visitors to the museum this year. There were several reasons for this high number, primarily the very successful Tudor weekend, but also the lovely hot weather which enabled many families to picnic in the grounds, although there isn't a lot of shade!

Our exhibition this year will be on sport, so if you have any memorabilia from your sporting past, we would like to hear from you.

We held a very successful quiz evening in March, hosted by Kevin Ashman (from TV's Eggheads) and it was a sell-out. Music was provided by Sue Apicella and Dave Jordan.

In September we were fortunate to have Christopher Maxe (a Winchester City Guide) to take us on a tour of Corhampton Saxon Church and Meonstoke Church, two very different churches just a few yards from each other. Chris was an excellent guide, imparting his great local knowledge on these two very interesting buildings. Demand for the tour was so high that there were two separate guided visits.

In November we held our volunteers 'get together' at The Bunch of Grapes in St. Peter's Street, kindly offered to us by Stuart Pink. Around 20 people attended and it was a warm and cosy evening. One of the many topics discussed was 'is there or is there not' a tunnel leading from St. Peter's Church to the Palace grounds, quite a conundrum!

This spring we hope to organise a visit, at the end of March, to Chawton House near Alton where Jane Austen's brother lived, and where she visited. The house is about 400 years old and is now a centre for early women writers.

As always, we have a need to recruit people to become volunteers. We have an excellent group at present but could do with a few more for stewarding. It is not onerous, two-hour stints with two people. We usually have a training session and an open morning/afternoon before opening the museum.

I have lived in Bishop's Waltham for almost 40 years and have seen many changes, some good and some not so good. Of course, it's busier with all the new developments taking place, but it's still a great place to live with lots of open countryside on our doorstep.

## News from the Collection by Penny Copeland

Thanks to everyone who donated items to the museum this year! We can't take everything, sadly, and we have to follow our collection policy when accepting items, but we really appreciate that you are thinking of us.

Our amazing volunteers Peter and Jenny Meadows have been doing the most wonderful job with the photo collection and we now have more we can show you digitally.

So, can anyone help us with putting names to these people? A lot of John Bosworth's photos, such as these, don't come with names – it was probably obvious to him at the time.



This photo was taken in Bishop's Waltham Social Club at Christmas 1958

- you can just make out the paper chains in black and white, but who is behind the bar?

And who were these lucky winners in the Miss (?) competition?



Any help you can give will be much appreciated. Look out for more photos appearing on the Facebook page soon!

## 2023 Exhibition

One of the jobs we do in the autumn is to put away items from the year's exhibition. This time we had to pack up the items from English Heritage (stained glass, tiles, plaster etc) and take them back to Fort Brockhurst. EH were very helpful in loaning the items, and we hope they will come back again next time we need to show how sumptuous the Palace was. In addition this year we were offered Tudor coins from Matthew at Meon Valley Numismatics and they went on display upstairs - complete with the faces of the Tudor monarchs who visited!

In 2023, we are planning an exhibition on sport in Bishop's Waltham. We are struggling with what to include at the moment, but it looks as if we might have to make it all outdoor sports except swimming - darts will have to wait for the leisure exhibition in a few years' time!

In 1912, William Page wrote about "Sport" for the Victoria County History of Hampshire. He included only hunting (including horse racing), shooting, fishing and a single page on cricket. We intend to be far more inclusive! Here's a

little taster of what we have to add to that list..

### Bishop's Waltham F.C., 1921-22

Winners -

Meon Valley League, Division 1, 1921-22.  
South Hants Hospital Cup, 1921-22.  
Pink's Cup, 1920-21-22.



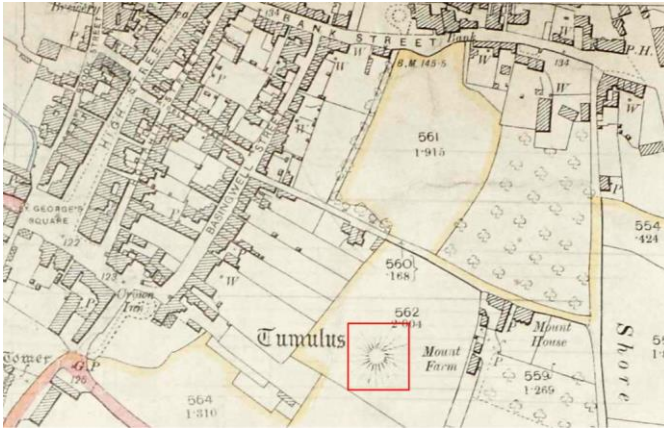
W. Blackman, A.E. Apps, R. Chalk(Capt.)  
Mr. T. Pink(Chairman), Mr. C. Etheridge, Sen.(Committee), H.B. Apps, R.F. Apps, T. King, Mr E. Edwards(Committee), Mr. J.C. Blaver(Committee),  
A.C. Cook, C. Moore, W. Parvin, H.L. Levers, C.E. Etheridge, F. Houghton.

If you have any objects that you'd like to lend us for the exhibition or any good stories that we can use, then please get in touch!

## What is the connection between the Jubilee Hall and Silbury Hill? Answer: the Great Barrow - by Penny Copeland

In 1956 Paul Ashbee published an article about the "Great Barrow" in Bishop's Waltham for The Prehistoric Society, (reprinted in the Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society Journal).

In 1953, the Parish Council were going to flatten the barrow which lay near the centre of the town, and lay out a football pitch, so they called in the archaeologists. Often called a tumulus on old maps, a barrow is a prehistoric burial mound, and round ones such as this were common in the Bronze Age (2500-700BC). They come in many different styles, but usually include a mound and a ditch, so they are a really obvious feature of the landscape once you know what to look for. In 1953, the barrow was just a low mound in a field belonging to Folly Farm - now it is in the Jubilee Hall car park but no longer visible. There are still two barrows in West Hoe, north of Hoe Farm and visible from the road. And there were probably many more originally.

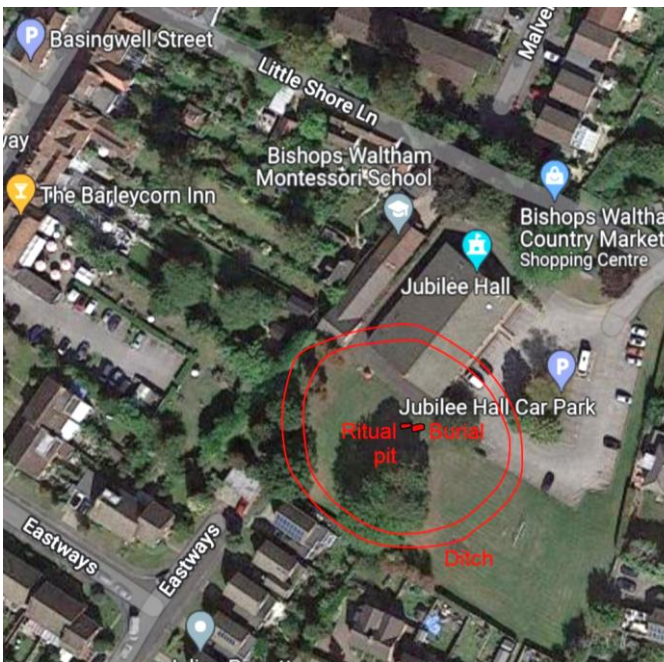


This 1896 OS map of BW shows the barrow clearly marked

Although the football field was never built, the Ministry of Works excavated the barrow, so we know quite a bit about it.

It was a "bell barrow" i.e. a mound in the centre of a flat area which was surrounded by a ditch dug out of the sand and clay. The whole thing was huge, extending from the far south west boundary of the present car park right under the Jubilee Hall, with the ditch alone being four to five metres wide.

In the centre of the barrow was a pit for a coffin, and a "ritual" pit found empty. It was probably made in the Early to Middle Bronze Age i.e. 2500 to 1000BC.



The central grave was dug into the ground by 50 to 60cm. It was filled with a coffin made of a tree trunk packed

round with clay. The inside may have been lined with cereals or grasses onto which was placed cremated bones and covered by some fibrous material. A small bronze dagger was found with the bones and another to the side – and this gives the only hint that the deceased may have been male, although the bone analysis suggested that they may have been female as the long bones were rather slim. The deceased was probably around 20-30 years old. A further body appears to have been placed on top of the coffin covering, visible only as a shadow, with a pot. Sand is acidic and notorious for dissolving bones, which is why there was no skeleton surviving – the same thing happened at Sutton Hoo...



The pot found with the body is around 23cm high, and highly decorated with cord impressed into the wet clay to make an intricate pattern. Although it was assumed to be a food pot, it is also very similar to cremation urns. We are lucky enough to have a replica of the pot in the museum.



More pottery was found in the soil heaped up onto the mound, and this

included Neolithic sherds. There was also a good range of flint tools showing that people were working flint nearby. Ashbee concluded that these were people of some status.

Roll on 67 years, and the Parish Council wanted to extend the car park in 2020, so a "watching brief" was carried out. This involves archaeologists watching to make sure builders do not inadvertently destroy archaeology. The report by Andrew Mudd of Cotswold Archaeology (AN0163\_1) makes interesting reading because they ended up digging a section of the ditch.

When the archaeologists took the topsoil off, the wide ditch around the barrow was clearly visible. After excavation, it was over a metre deep in most places. More prehistoric pottery was found in it, together with lots of worked flint, both with Neolithic material. Mudd concludes that there was quite a bit of activity here before the Bronze Age, and that its location may be linked to its proximity to the springheads in the Moors that are a source of the Hamble. This is believed to be the reason for the location of Silbury Hill at Avebury – it is near the springs that are the source of the River Kennet.

## Secretary's Report by Gill Williams

Amy Adams, South East Museums mentor to the Museum came to a meeting with Penny Copeland and me in the summer of 2022. Amy has a very positive approach and she was pleased to see how the action plan is being rolled out post Covid. Ideas such as improved lighting and exhibition spaces are under consideration. The Henry VIII big event in July raised the profile of the museum as active in the community and beyond with excellent media reports and community awards.

The team-working of our trustees, volunteers and members contributed greatly to the successful 2022 season and the mentoring we receive makes sure we are on the right track for next year. New members are always welcome!

## Financial Report by Nick Whitehead

We have had a really good year and some excellent events. Donations rose from £1,200 to £1,700 from very generous visitors who also bought more books. The Quiz in February, which was very well attended, made a healthy profit. We also have our highest number of members since 2018 adding to our subscriptions.

Post Covid, we are again liable for Business Rates but English Heritage (EH) reimburses us 40% of this expenditure. Insurance premiums continue to rise, and were, in 2022 £656 against £597 in 2021.

We have purchased the entire stock of *Bishops Waltham Palace Guides* from Bishops Waltham Society for £1,500, the income from which will be recovered over the next few years - we are generally the only seller of this guide as it was a joint publication by the society with EH. EH have moved on to produce a new book for 2023 on the four palaces of the Bishops of Winchester (including BW), which we will eventually stock.

In summary, in 2021 income exceeded expenditure by £2,500 but there were two unusual items that year (Covid grant of £8,000 and settlement of the Oral History bench invoice of £2,566). This year we are likely to break even because of the above purchase of *Palace Guides*. Funds are currently £3,500 (Current account) and £18,000 (Savings account).

## "Your Local" by Allison McNally

We've had a "local" pub or inn for centuries. At its height, we had at least 14 pubs all running at the same time in the centre of Bishop's Waltham!

The earliest licensed victualler I've found in my research is John Migell who is named in the 1464 Rentals of the Bishop of Winchester Manors (Barstow translation), as the previous landlord of

the hostelry known as *Le Ynne* in Free Street. The owner living there in 1464 was one Richard Brownynge who was no doubt the current landlord. I have tentatively linked this building to the *Waltham Tandoori* (formerly the *White Hart* and *Mafeking Hero*), but it could also be *The Wheatsheaf*, now three houses, that lies opposite. *Le Ynne*, later referred to as The Inne, is cited as being near or at "the Node". This is likely to be the junction between Free Street and Bank Street/Hoe Road when Green Lane was part of the main route from Winchester to Fareham/Portchester.

*The George*, another inn on Free Street mentioned in the 1550 Rentals, was probably on the corner of Rareridge Lane which used to extend this far. The landlord at the time was Henry Ryve.

In the 1860s, we have a lot of thirsty people supporting the town pubs. This is a snapshot of the pubs you could visit:

Mary Langridge, from Bighton, near Alton was the publican at the *Wheatsheaf*. Mary was 38 years old in 1861, and unusually was not married – a career woman! She was also the landlady at *The Grapes* for a spell. She died 10 years later aged 49 back in Bighton.

The earliest recorded landlord of *The Brewery Arms* which was on the corner of Bank Street and Lower Lane (see below, now demolished) is John Eden from Warwickshire. He also acted as a groom and domestic servant so perhaps he was employed at the pub rather than owning it. He married a Bishop's Waltham girl, Alice and had three children by 1871.



Mark Gale is listed in Kellys Directory in charge of *The White Swan* on Bank Street (now the Friends restaurant). He was born in Droxford and was a retired Greenwich pensioner aged 58, running the pub with his wife, Ann. Mark has a very interesting service record in the Royal Navy and Coast Guard, and lived till he was 81 – a very good age in the 1800s!

At *The Kings Head* (now R2 restaurant), we have John Clifford, aged 54 in the 1861 census, running the pub with his wife, Lucy, who took over when he died in 1864. They were not local but came from Berkshire.

Mrs Mary Gamblen kept *The White Hart* (now Waltham Tandoori) from about 1859 to 1865. She had been widowed when her husband Joseph died young in 1856. Mary herself was only born in Cheriton around 1826 and was running the pub with the help of her brother and a servant (both working as agricultural labourers too) while bringing up four children. She also died young in 1872.

In the 1861 census, *The Barleycorn* was unoccupied – but was soon taken on by George Lomer. He had been born in Morestead and married Charlotte. He was in his late 30s when he started at the pub and was there till he died of drowning in 1881, aged 55. His son George Lomer and wife, Mary Ann, with eight children then took over.



A photograph of the Barleycorn taken c 1895 with George Lomer's name on the board on the right

Thomas Dowse is living in *The Crow's Nest* in 1861 (below – became Lloyd's Chemist but now BW Pharmacy), although his trade is noted as a

bricklayer in the census (it was common for publicans to have another job!). He was born in Bishops Waltham, he married Louisa Ann from Wickham. They were married for 40 years but didn't have any children. Thomas died in 1902 and Louisa in 1894 and their headstone is in St Peters graveyard.



The Crow's Nest with a new landlord in about 1908 – the sign post is still *in situ* today

*The Dolphin* (Hylands) is a bit of a mystery around then and may have become a shop...

*The Brewery Tap* is being run by Charles Privett as part of a maltings and brewery on Brook Street. He was born in Bishops Waltham and inherited it from his father William who ran it from about 1830. Charles was married to Theodorah (from Shoreditch in London) and they had 3 very young children at this time.

In the 1841, 1851 and 1861 censuses John Hewitt is running *The Bunch of Grapes*, also known as just *The Grapes*, while also being a bricklayer! He was born in Bishops Waltham but his wife Sabina was from Nottingham – it would be interesting to know how they met...

In 1861 John Savage is the victualler at *The Red Lion* (below in the process of demolition), having previously ran the *Wheatsheaf*, but he is also a cordwainer! *The Red Lion* was demolished to make space for the central car park, but all that remains of Red Lion Street is the

alley next to Costa. John was born in Bishops Waltham, married Charlotte from Droxford and they had 14 children. John lived till he was 82, a very good age for the time.



*The Crown Hotel* was the most significant coaching inn for the town. During the 1860s it was being run by George Pratt, born in Warnford and married to Matilda from Somerset (another long distance marriage?). They had six staff at the time, and five guests. George went on to be a Tester of Riding then a Riding Master and an equestrian instructor in Southampton.

*The Foresters Arms* (now *The Priory*) appears on the first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1868 and is part of the development of New Town with Claylands. We know that a Samuel Valance was one of the first landlords. A Mr Poulter is reported to have changed its name from the Staffordshire Arms (a name chosen to flatter the skilled men from the Potteries needed to build the kilns) when the Ancient Order of Foresters began to use it as their lodge in 1865. Research is still ongoing!

*The White Horse*, on Beeches Hill (now houses) is being ran by Henry Paice in 1861. Henry was born in Meonstoke in 1812, married Ruth from BW and they had 6 children. He is recorded in 1841 as a publican at Ashton aged 25, then in 1851 as a grocer but by 1861 was running *The White Horse* AND was a grocer. Henry died a year after Ruth in 1898 aged 86 – another long lived publican...

Hope you've enjoyed this short pub crawl around BW!

# At last, The 1772 Show

by Rob Romer

If you happened to be wandering by Broadhalfpenny Down, near Hambledon, one evening last July then you may have thought that you were experiencing some kind of time warp. There were people dressed in eighteenth century clothes and on the cricket pitch there appeared to be a game of cricket but not quite as we know it.

On 14<sup>th</sup> July a game was played on this famous ground under 1744 rules to mark the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the original first-class cricket match. The original game was a planned three-day match, which started on 24<sup>th</sup> June 1772 between Hampshire and an All-England XI. The match was completed in two days under the 1744 rules. The game was played with two stumps at each end, 22 inches high, with one six inch bail. This set up continued until an infamous game in 1775 when Edward "Lumpy" Stevens bowled three deliveries that went straight through the two stumps rather than hitting them. It was decided that a third stump should be used. Originally, the ball was bowled along the ground, but at some point in the 1770s bowlers began pitching the ball. In the 2022 celebration game, balls were bowled underarm.

Overs consisted of four balls only until 1889 when it changed to five balls. It was not until 1900 that we had six ball overs. The bat used in 1772 would have been at an intermediate stage between the hockey stick type and the modern cricket bat.



For the 2022 match a replica of the bat was made and, with a little skill, the 2022 batters were able to score well with this bat. It was longer but the width, at 4.25 inches, was the same as the maximum allowed for a modern bat. In the 1772 game Hampshire won by 53 runs and received a prize of 500 guineas. In the 2022 game both sides had 20 overs with The Sparks scoring 95 to beat the Thunderbolts who scored 93. No prizes were awarded, there was just the satisfaction of taking part in a close game well played.

## Bats in the museum

A recent report by Corylus Ecology for English Heritage identified three species of bats roosting in our roof last summer: Soprano pipistrelles, common pipistrelles and long-eared bats.

Daubenton's bat and the common nocture were also seen flying around near the building. The trees and water apparently make quite a bat friendly habitat!

### Planning matters...

A year ago we confirmed that Country Homes had been given permission for their planned development on the Fox/Youth Club site, opposite the Museum, but work hasn't started yet. It seems almost certain it will begin in 2023, once they have agreed final legal details with Winchester City Council – a prolonged process!

Recently you may have heard that Beechcroft Homes have received planning permission for the 3.7ha Station Road/Abbey Field site. They plan 66-bed care home, 38 assisted living flats, 12 affordable housing flats and 19 homes. The good news is that the Abbey Mill building will be restored and turned into flats. Arguments for its retention can be found on the Bishop's Waltham Society website at:

[https://www.bishopswalthamsociety.org.uk/files/ugd/a6316f\\_da174e7b0c42466c91ea7659d4fbd8a5.pdf](https://www.bishopswalthamsociety.org.uk/files/ugd/a6316f_da174e7b0c42466c91ea7659d4fbd8a5.pdf).