



FOLKESTONE & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER No. 34 –SPRING 2008

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT by Alan F. Taylor

At the December meeting we welcomed our speaker, member and author Vince Williams who presented us with his illustrated talk on the history of St. Martins Church. Vince started by claiming St Martins is the oldest church in the area; nobody challenged him so we can assume it to be correct. He showed us a map dating from 1713 and Andrews & Dury & William Herbert's map of 1779; and on both maps he pointed out the church.

There is a doorway and window of Saxon origin, the chancel is 13th century the nave, Enbrook chapel, south aisle and tower are 14th century and the north aisle, porch and vestry are 19th century. The earliest illustration known is 1847 and the first photograph (without the north) aisle is 1872.

The lych gate was erected to celebrate Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee and it was moved to its present position in the early 20th century. At one time the church field was used for an army-tented camp. In the Enbrook chapel there is a memorial stone for Mrs Elizabeth Raleigh, granddaughter of Sir Walter Raleigh who died aged 30 years on 26th October 1716. Vince went on to show us pictures of Rectors and views around the Parish including the church halls, finishing with the community centre, which was opened in 1996.

Sixty-four people attended the meeting, five of whom were visitors.

On Friday 7th December thirty-five members and friends had Christmas dinner at the indoor Bowls club in Cheriton Road.

I would like to thank all those members who kindly sponsored me for the Boxing Day Dip. I raised a grand total of £230. Half the money will go to the Kent Air Ambulance, which was the charity of my choice. Apart from getting a medal and a cup of mulled wine I also won the trophy for the oldest dipper (71 years). You may remember that I said all the sponsors names were being put in a draw, well two people who sponsored me won a bottle of sparkling wine each.

Tuesday 22nd January twenty-two members gathered at the Langhorne Hotel for a coffee morning. There were requests for us to arrange another one!

At the February meeting our speaker should have been Brian Doorne talking about the Royal Military Canal but due to ill health he was unable to come. Don and Shirley rang round and managed to get Cyril Baldwin who gave us a talk entitled *A Light Hearted Look at Auctions*.

Cyril ran an Estate Agents business in Gillingham and after founding an antique and collectors club he started auctioneering and later became dispersant auctioneers, in other words they sold items from people who went to the wall. In some cases it was because they couldn't pay their income tax or VAT.

He told us that auctions were started 1744 by Samuel Baker who started selling books by auctioning them and that Sotheby's has a direct link to Samuel Baker.

He also told us that an auctioneer has the right to turn down a bid for reasons such as being under 21 years of age, for being drunk and if the auctioneer thought you were insane.

Do's and Don'ts when attending an auction: always read the catalogue, don't put anything in an auction if you don't think it will sell, with items of furniture make sure the cupboards and drawers are empty and finally make sure you know what the item is worth.

If you are nervous about bidding or you cannot make the sale you can get the porter to bid for you.

It was a most interesting and entertaining talk giving an insight into the art of auctioneering.

Seventy-one people attended the meeting, nine of whom were visitors.

We would like to welcome our new members: Mrs T. Allen, Mrs Sue Peake, Mr A. Godden, Jennifer Ayling, Shirley Hawkins and Mr & Mrs Blendell.

On a rather sad note I would like to announce the death of Bert Fedarb who died just before Christmas aged 85. Bert and his wife had been members of the Society for many years also Joan Tilby a former member passed away aged 86 on 27th February 2008. Joan ran Perry's grocers store at 50 Guildhall Street until she retired.

ANNUAL OUTING – JULY 2008

The Society is currently investigating the possibility of making Boulogne the destination for its Annual Outing this year. The day will include a coach to Dover with a crossing and return on the Sea Cat/Ferry and a possible escorted tour of the town/visit super market. There are a variety of restaurants for those who wish to partake of French cuisine or you may wish to provide your own lunch. There will be a cost of approximately £20 to include coach and ferry. Please contact Shirley Gregory, 01303 246682 if you are interested as we need to book the coach as soon as possible. We look forward to your comments and replies.

THOSE WERE THE DAYS

GRAND REGATTA at FOLKESTONE, on MONDAY, AUGUST 22, 1859 – SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY. A CHEAP EXCURSION TRAIN will leave LONDON BRIDGE on the above day at 8.30 a.m., returning from Folkestone Upper Station (same day) at 9.0 p.m. Fares there and back :- covered carriages, 5s; Second class, 7s; First Class 10s; Children under ten, Half Fare. No luggage allowed. The South Eastern Company's splendid Steam-ships will make short trips to sea, at low fares, to view the Regatta and French Coast. Military Bands from Shorncliffe Camp will perform during

the day at Folkestone. A table d'Hote at the Pavilion Hotel at 7.0 p.m. Tickets (for which previous application should be made), 5s each.

FOLKESTONE REGATTA, 1859

Patrons

The Mayor of Folkestone Lacon, Esq.	W. Deedes, Esq. M.P.	J.E.
The Earl of Radnor Page	The Hon. Sir John D. Bligh	Lord Alfred
J.J. Lonsdale, Esq. Esq.	Charles Harwood, Esq.	J. Mellon,
Viscount Folkestone Esq.	The Hon. James Byng	A. Beattie,
Lieutenant General Sir De Browtell, Esq.	W. Gordon Thomson, Esq.	W.F.
Lacy Evans, M.P. Lucas, Esq.	Frederick Brockman, Esq.	Charles
Baron M.A. Rothschild, M.P. Lucas, Esq.	The Vice Consul for France	Thomas
Major General Hankey Esq.	The Major of New Romney	James Morris,

The Major of Hythe

And a committee of Thirty Gentlemen

President of the Sailing Committee, Captain Boxer, R.N., to whom all

Communications connected with the Races are to be made.

Umpire on shore, Captain Rich, R.N.

The Stewards and Committee have much pleasure in announcing that the above Regatta will take place (weather permitting) on MONDAY 22. 1859, at Half-past eleven o'clock, a.m. To commence abreast the Committee Booth, the Signal for Starting being the Firing of a Gun from the Committee Boat.

By the kind permission of Lieut. Colonel Bridges, commanding the 58th Regiment, and Lieut. Colonel Muster, commanding the 100th Regiment Royal City of Dublin Militia, their MILITARY BAND, with others, will be in attendance, and play on the Pavilion Lawn, Leas and Beach during the Regatta.

There will be seven races, one for Second Class Luggers, one for Six oared Wager Galleys, another for Yachts, Four oared Wager Galleys, First Class Luggers, Punts, and the final race for Losing Galleys. The boats and crews competing for any of the above races will be conveyed Free on the South-Eastern Line to and from Folkestone. Conditions - all boats to be entered before 3 o'clock, p.m. on Friday the 19th August at the Harbour Master's Office.

THOSE WERE THE DAYS

In the Afternoon a variety of Old English Sports will take place; and also a DUCK HUNT, for a purse of money.

At dusk, a Grand Display of FIREWORKS on the Leas, near Langhome Gardens.

In the Evening a REGATTA BALL will take place, full particulars of which will be duly announced.

Subscriptions will be received to Twelve o'clock on the day of the regatta, by the Treasurer, A.M. Leith, Esq., National Provincial Branch Bank; by any of the Stewards and Committee, or Secretary.

No Booth will be allowed to be erected on the beach without permission of the Committee.

There will be an excursion from London and other parts of the Line on the day of the Regatta.

The South-Eastern Company's Steamers will ply in the Roads during the Regatta, fare 1s 6d. An excursion steamer will also leave Boulogne for the Regatta.

GILBERT KENNICOTT, Mayor, Chairman of the Committee. All communications to be addressed to Mr. Venables, Secretary, Sandgate Road, opposite the Bank, Folkestone (except those having reference to the Sailing Committee).

A dinner will be provided by Mr. Doridant on the day of the Regatta at Seven o'clock, at 5s each.

July 22, 1859.



Folkestone Regatta mid. 1930's

Registered Charity No. 295994