

The Farningham & Eynsford Local History Society

Founded 1985

*A Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee
No. 5620267 incorporated the 11th November 2005 Registered Charity 1113765*



(Original Society founded 1985 Registered Charity no 1047562)

Bulletin No 90

June 2011

Forthcoming Talks and Events

2011	Details	Where
23rd Sept	The Darent Valley Archaeological Project - Paul Cawsey	Eynsford
25th Nov	Invitation to a Vestry Meeting - Jean Stirk	Farningham
17th Sept	Trip to Hythe (see details at the end of bulletin)	

Unless otherwise stated all Meetings are held on a Friday evening from 730pm, talk commencing 8pm. (Note: front row seats can be reserved for members with hearing or eyesight difficulties and hearing loops are now available on request)

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (Barbara Cannell 864253)

The Annual General Meeting held at Eynsford village hall on 20th May was an opportunity to review events of the past year and to highlight future events. Although the Society holds only four meetings a year it is involved with conference days, fetes and exhibitions putting on displays of our local history at venues in the district. The committee would welcome suggestions for topics and speakers for evening meetings and ideas for outings or visits. We are hoping that the walking quiz in Farningham and the coach trip to Hythe will prove popular with members and friends.

PUBLICATIONS REPORT

Our latest publication, "The Commemoration of Wars in Crockenhill, Eynsford & Lullingstone, Kent" was ready for sale at the Annual General Meeting on 20th May. This should be a valuable asset for family historians researching relatives who fought and lost their lives fighting for our country. Research by the writers of this book has revealed much informative history about the lives of some of these men and women.

Further to my report at the AGM when I thanked Gwen McIntyre for her successful sale of 10 copies of the Peter Warlock book at the Peter Warlock Society visit to Eynsford I reprint (with permission from the PW Society) several references to Eynsford made in their newsletter 88 which I found interesting. Again I thank Gwen McIntyre for giving me this newsletter to read.

Page 29 - part of the Cliff Watkins article in Newsletter 86 (page 14),.....Carey Blyton played a not insignificant part in the early years of the Society, being heavily

involved in the blue plaque being placed on the Eynsford cottage in May 1969.....

Page 31 - a reference to our publication - Peter Warlock (1894 – 1930) by Gwen McIntyre. This 15 page booklet was produced by the Farningham & Eynsford Local History Society in 1996. Contains a few PW snippets probably not available elsewhere.

Page 45 - “Warlock in “*The Sun!*” On Saturday 5th February Warlock had the dubious accolade of a mention in *The Sun*. There was a half page spread in this issue on the topic of British Eccentrics, which consisted of two or three sentences on each of about a dozen names (most of them I had never heard of). PW was right at the end, and his claim to eccentricity was deemed to be the nude motorbike riding in Eynsford. However, the bit that made me laugh (and I thought ‘Typical *Sun!*’) was where they had the heading as ‘Philip Heseltine (1894 – 1930)’ and then went on to say ‘whose real name was Peter Warlock’!! Ah well, I suppose they only had a 50% chance of getting it right...! John Mitchell.

Page 46 - Social Lunch at the *Five Bells*, Eynsford on 26 March 2011 -- The social lunch at Eynsford, by coincidence, fell on the same day as the *Fanfare for Beckenham* concert, which was devised by Cliff Watkins and which featured various works by Warlock. As Beckenham is a mere stone’s throw from Eynsford, several Warlockians decided to make a day of it and attend both events.

Due to staff difficulties at the *Five Bells*, sandwiches were the only fare on offer. But this didn’t spoil the atmosphere, which was vibrant with conversation. We were very pleased to have the company of Gwen McIntyre, of the Farningham and Eynsford Local History Society, who wrote that society’s pamphlet about Warlock, originally published in 1996 (Publication no. 17) and reprinted in 2010, available for £2.

We were also delighted to have the company of Sally Coston, who lives in the cottage where Warlock lived between 1925 and 1928. Sally very generously gave us a tour (in two parties) of the cottage and we all had great fun trying to determine how the layout might have been in Warlock’s day. There was one spot, however, that was definitely the location of PW’s piano. I know that reference is often made to the cottage being very small, but I was surprised at how really cramped space was.

For those who were going on to Beckenham, the *Malt Shovel Inn*, a few yards down the road from the *Five Bells*, provided us with a hearty ‘high tea’. Thus fortified we moved on to our next venue, having had an exceedingly pleasant and rewarding day in Eynsford.

Michael Graves.

RESEARCH REPORT (Susan Pittman 669923) website www.felhs.org.uk

I am pleased to report that Diana Beamish and Susan Clapson, brought up in Crockenhill and recently returned to the village, have agreed to help me sort out and catalogue the book collection, once a new cupboard has been purchased in which to house it.

The National Archives extension of on-line services

You might like to try the following:-

Person search. You can search for a particular name from records including First World War records, Royal Navy records, criminal registers, lawsuits, wills and pension records.

UK history photo finder. At present this has 14000 photos of the UK and Ireland. You can search by location and view images free of charge.

Valuation Office Survey. You can identify and order Valuation Office Survey maps from 1910-1915 without visiting TNA at Kew.

(from ‘*The Local Historian*’, March 2011, p.28)

The Roses Tearoom, Station Road, Eynsford

'The Roses', now Hollyhurst, was a popular tearoom started in 1937 by Mr and Mrs Standen. Meals were usually served in the front room, although favoured guests might be invited into the back room. Mrs Standen's daughter, Mabel Friend, helped her run the tearoom and later in life kept two books signed by the customers with their entirely complimentary comments. Pauline, a granddaughter of the Standens, would love to locate these books and would like more information about the tearoom. During the Second World War 8 airmen were billeted at The Roses and enjoyed the 'smashing' food.

(from pp.23-24, FELHS no.13, '*A Village at War – Eynsford 1939-1945*' by D.G. Burcham)

The Hooligan Boys of the 1890s

This gang consisting of about 15 young men all under the age of 30 roamed the Southwark area terrorising shopkeepers and passers-by. Their violent behaviour was given some prominence in the press at the time. When a magistrate asked who Mr Hooley was and whether the Hooligans had taken their name from him, he was told that the origin was a music-hall act called The Hooligan Brothers who popularised a comic song 'at the lower class of music-halls' some years before. The link with our area is that one of their victims was 35 year-old Henry Mappin, a former blacksmith, who had recently worked in Wood's jam factory at Crockenhill. Henry was accosted by one of the gang for money as he left the Duke of Somerset public house in Blackfriars. There was a struggle in which the assailant, John Darcy, a 16 year-old porter, whipped out a knife and fatally stabbed Henry in the neck. There were calls for the police to take tough action, but many victims were afraid to come forward. One resident was quoted as saying, 'The thing that would stop them would be the lash. Give it them, just before they come out (i.e. from prison), so that their friends could see the effect, and I'll warrant the outrages will soon be put a stop to.'

(from information supplied by Edward Wood from www.victorianlondon.org/crime1/hooligans.htm)

The residents of Bower Farm, Eynsford, 1841-1901

Looking at censuses down the decades can tell you something about the history of your house. Bower Farm was on the Lullingstone estate, so all its residents were tenants. In the 1841 and 1851 censuses a well-established local family, the Mandys, lived there. George and Sarah Mandy were in their 30s and 40s, and had at least 6 children. They shared the house with about 6 servants and farm labourers. The farm extended over 500 acres and was worked by 16 permanent agricultural labourers. The whole household was born locally. By 1861 a 36 year-old widower, James Youngman, from Suffolk, had taken over. The farm was now 615 acres worked by 12 labourers. Six of the household came from East Anglia, two from Gloucestershire, with only James's 3 year-old daughter having been born in Eynsford. In 1871 a farm bailiff, Thomas Glover, oversaw the farm. He and his wife had 5 children and only one 13 year-old servant. By 1881 another tenant, Samuel Cowpe, from Nottinghamshire had been found, and there was no local person in the household. By this time the farm had shrunk to 200 acres worked by 2 men. The decline in the farm's fortunes continued, it being unoccupied in 1891. Lastly, in 1901, the household had shrunk from 13 in 1841 to 2 – Sarah Hanger, a professional nurse, who worked at Lullingstone Castle, and her housemaid. It would seem that by that time the house was no longer linked to the farmland.

Thomas Fuller of Farningham, promoter of a remedy for gout and rheumatism

Thomas Fuller in 1818 wrote a long letter promoting Dr Wilson's tincture, which he

had come across on a visit to Saxmundham, Norfolk, and which gave him great relief from a gout attack there. He brought several bottles back to Farningham, which he distributed to those in distress from the complaints. His letter names 9 from Farningham, 8 from Eynsford and 1 from Lullingstone, giving their ages and occupations. One case he mentioned was that of Mrs Gibson, wife of carpenter Peter Gibson, who had been afflicted with gout for 30 years, sometimes being confined to her bed for 8 to 12 weeks at a time. However, after a dose of Dr Wilson's tincture she was back on her feet in two days.

(from pp.454-459, '*Observations of Gout and Rheumatism*' by Charles Wilson M.D., 1823, copy from internet supplied by Peter Jones)

Sale of Little Castlefield, 1623 (CKS U507/T1)

Robert Willard, maltster of Eynsford, sold 6 acres of land called Little Castlefield to William Payne, maltster of Eynsford, for £80.

The Duchess of Dorset visits Lullingstone, 1617

The unhappily married Lady Anne Sackville lived at Knole, while her husband continually absented himself hunting, gambling or courting other women. She was an intelligent, lively lady who languished without company and stimulation. On the last day of July 1617 she wrote in her journal about the tedious time she was having. Perhaps that is why the next day she rode to Lullingstone in some state, with her cousin, Moll Neville, her attendant and 'as many horses as I could get.' Lady Rich came from London to meet her there and brought the latest gossip about Lord Roos's quarrels with his wife, which centred on his relationship with Lady Exeter. In October Sir Percival Hart came over from Lullingstone to dine at Knole, but with summer over Lady Sackville's pregnancy meant that she had to spend more time indoors making quince marmalade and re-stringing her jewels.

(from pp.98-101, '*Proud Northern Lady*' by Martin Holmes)

Family history enquiries

- **Dyke family of Sussex** – Penelope, a student in Art History, is studying the tomb of Thomas Dyke in All Saints Church, Waldron, and wanted to find primary sources for the family. I directed her to the Dyke papers at East Sussex Record Office, Lewes.
- **Thomas Fuller of Farningham** – Beverley from Farnham in researching the history of her house found that it had once been owned by Thomas Fuller and wanted more information about him. Beverley struck lucky because Geoffrey Copus has long had an interest in the family, through their connections with the Waring family, and provided her with 'copious' notes on the family. He has passed copies of these and of abstracts of Fuller wills to the Society.
- **Hercus of Farningham** – Paul sent a copy of a postcard of 1936 of Farningham High Street. The message included a reference to the Nash mausoleum and a headstone in the churchyard mentioning a death in Australia. Both Stella Baggaley and I have looked in the churchyard without success for this headstone. If anyone knows its location or if the surname Hercus rings a bell, please contact me.
- **Mace of Crockenhill** – the Mace family at one time ran 'The Anchor and Hope' beer house demolished in the 1960s. I was able to provide a picture of the beer house and family history information.
- **Mills, Turner, Forrester, Best of Crockenhill** – Des wanted to know the location of Best Cottages in Crockenhill, which were inherited by his great grandmother from Caleb Best. However, she is supposed to have lost the inheritance through drink by 1927 when she died. There are 2 rows called

Best Cottages, one in Old Chapel Road, and the other in Stones Cross Road.

- **Sarah Turner, aged 15, in 1901** – Benita wanted information about Sarah a between maid at Grassmeade Manor House, which has made way for St. Philomena's Primary School, St. Mary Cray. Benita teaches at the school and is researching the manor house as part of a cross-curricula project. The 1901 census gives Crockenhill as Sarah's birthplace. Turners were very thick on the ground in Crockenhill but I found no Sarah there in 1891. I suggested Benita look up the St Mary Cray census of 1891 and she found the family living at Crouch Farm, St Mary Cray. When I looked in the 1881 census I found Sarah's parents and 7 children living in Crockenhill.

Other enquiries

- **Bower Farm House, Bower Lane** – the new owners, Andrew and Tanya, wanted to know about the history of the house, understood to have built in 1760. I gave them pointers towards discovering more and provided them with a list of residents from the 1841- 1901 censuses, and details of the farmland there from the 1841 tithe map.
- **Prayer books from the 1890s** – Lynda bought these some time ago and would like to hand them to a family member if any can be found. They are inscribed – Miss S. Keep, Mount Cottages, Crocken Hill, Swanley Junction, Kent. I checked the 1891 census and found Susan Keep, aged 13, living with her parents, George, an agricultural labourer aged 54, and Susan, aged 53. George was born in St Mary Cray and Susan in Eynsford. Other children in the household at the time were Lydia, 26, Richard, 27, Jesse, 24, Emma, 18, Thomas, 17, Alfred, 15, with Susan aged 13 being the youngest in the household.
- **C19th railways** – Peter is a model railway enthusiast and asked for details of FELHS publication '*Nineteenth Century Railway Schemes in the Middle Darent Valley*' by Wilf Duncombe because he wants to locate a station between Dartford and Eynsford that he can use on his layout
- **The Roses tearoom, Eynsford** – with the help of Anne Cremer these were located for Pauline and an illustration found in FEHLS publication, '*A Village at War*'.
- **The Mills brother / does a roll of Farningham Second World War service exist?** – John Drew would like information on the Mills brothers Vic, George, Jack and Bill. Jack and Bill lived in the top end of the village opposite the Farningham Hotel (perhaps 2 London Road). John would like to know which brother became a stoker in the Royal Navy. Also was Robert Henry Mills, a stoker in the Royal Navy, killed when his submarine was sunk by mistake, related to the brothers?

ARCHIVE REPORT (Susan Pittman 669923)(archives@felhs.org.uk)

FELHS Centre

I have now been told that I have been awarded my doctorate, although before confirmed I have three months to make minor alterations in my thesis 'Deer Parks in Elizabethan and Jacobean Kent'. Now I am less committed to study, I hope to be able to go to the Centre fairly, perhaps on a Wednesday morning, but unless you don't mind taking a chance, contact me before you visit. You can always leave a message on the answer-phone if I am out.

Acquisitions

- **From Diana Beamish** – various train and bus time-tables for Eynsford; sale

particulars of Institute Cottage (2010) and Gibsons Place (summer 2009); photos of the interior of Institute Cottage taken during the open day, 12 June 2010; flyers for local businesses and events; various newsletters including 2009-2010 from Eynsford Parish Council; 9 Hole Wood events and photos of the 10th anniversary of planting on 22 August 2010; funeral order of service for Brenda Gleave (18/11/2010), Jeanne Groves (13/1/2011), Joan Worlock (8/2/2011); photo of 24 March 2001 showing public footpath off St. Martin's Drive blocked off because of foot and mouth; photos of December 2010 of the severe winter in Eynsford; order of service of institution and induction of Revd. Gary John Owen as rector of Eynsford with Farningham and Lullingstone, 11 May 2010; set of photos of Wood's Foundry, Crockenhill, visited in August 2010.

- **From Geoffrey Copus** – copy photos of Farningham Manor and site map from sales brochure, 1920; CD compilations of his research into the Waring and Fuller families of Farningham.
- **From Peter Jones** – CD of '*Observations of Gout and Rheumatism*' by Charles Wilson M.D. (see above)
- **From Richard Lovering** – under-16 Identity Card, 1963.
- **From Philip McGarvey** – letter of October 1985 concerning the 50th anniversary of Farningham Village Hall.
- **From Brian Philp** – Kent Archaeological Review, Spring 2011, with article by Graeme Horner about the Iron Age/Romano-British farmstead near the Summer House Knoll, Lullingstone Park.
- **From Susan Pittman** – order of funeral service for Kathleen Joyce Ball (16/2/2011)
- **From Veronica Shephard** – order of funeral service for Edward Bainbridge (18/1/2011).
- **From Ken Stevens** – 2 photos of Eynsford bridges. Neither has yet been identified. There is a possibility one was over the river near Lullingstone Roman villa swept away by floods in the 1950s.
- **From Jan Wilkes** – various ?1950s cuttings; Kent Advertiser, July 1996, featuring The Lion, Farningham; copy deeds, 9 August 1935, for sale for £850 of corner plot to develop in the Eynsford Mount Estate with frontages to 2 new roads to be called Eynsford Drive and St. Martin's Drive.

and finally

Thanks to everyone who took part in the Farningham Walking Quiz, we had a glorious day. The winners were Claire and Jason Down who got 34 points, they have been awarded membership of the society until January 2012. If you took part you will be able to see the answers to the quiz at the Scout Fete on the 9th July.

We still have places on our coach trip to Hythe on Saturday 17th September, see the back of the bulletin for details. We have arranged guided walks around the town, but obviously you are free to do as you wish, take a train journey to Dungeness, a trip on the Military Canal, or a stroll around the town and a leisurely lunch and if you are feeling energetic a walk to the beach.

Before anyone points this out I know the bulletin is June 2011, but owing to failing technology and inefficiency by ASDA I have only just been able to complete same.

See you very soon, hopefully on another glorious day at the Scout Fete.

Jan Wilkes - Editor

WHAT'S ON 2011

Horton Kirby & South Darenth Local History Society

2011

- 11th July Society Member's evening
- 12th Sept Mystery Animals of Kent - Neil Arnold
- 14th Nov Ceremonial London - Anne Carter

All meetings are held at the Village Hall, South Darenth from 8pm. If you require further information contact Keith Saunderson (01322 862056) (Remember your membership card)

Shoreham & District Historical Society

2011

- 17th July Members' cream tea at Ann Ball's House. Talk by Frank Hitchcock
- 12th Aug Cricket in Shoreham - John Drew
- 9th Sept History of the Colegates - Ed James
- 23rd Sept Visit to Ingatestone Hall and Cressing Temple
- 21st Oct Joseph Prestwich - David Horsley
- 18th Nov Surviving by Magic - Monty Parkin

Meetings held in the Village Hall Shoreham from 8pm. Members who wish to attend these meetings are advised to contact the Secretary Lynda Alleeson (01959 522836) to check that no changes have been made to their programmes (Remember your membership card)

Hextable Heritage Society

2011

- 14th July Visit to St Margaret's Church, Darenth. Promptly 7.15pm at church
- 11th Aug Dartford's Historic Acacia Hall - Dr John Trethewey
- 8th Sept The Farningham Homes for Little Boys - Barbara & Brian
- 13th Oct Pictures of local vintage transport - Adrian Herbert
- 10th Nov Reach for the Sky - Chris Baker
- Dec Members Christmas Party

All meetings are held at the Hextable Heritage Centre. Crawfords, Dawson Drive, College Road, Hextable 7.30pm start. If you require further information please contact Barbara Cannell (01322 864253) (Remember your membership card)

JOIN US ON A TRIP TO
HYTHE
INCLUDING GUIDED TOUR OF THE TOWN
AND ST LEONARDS CHURCH
SATURDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER 2011

£12.00 INCLUSIVE

COACH PICK UP:
EYNSFORD CASTLE BUS STOP 8.30am
FARNINGHAM VILLAGE HALL 8.35am
RETURNING HOME APPROXIMATELY
5.30PM

Call Jan on 01322 865122 to reserve a
place or return form below to Jan Wilkes
2 Fountain Cottages, Bower Lane,
Eynsford, DA4 0AL

Trip to Hythe

Please reserve tickets for the trip to Hythe on Saturday 17th September
2011.

I/We will pick up the coach at and enclose

herewith cheque/cash to the amount of £.....

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Telephone/mobile number