

Leighton Buzzard and District Archaeological and Historical Society (LBDAS.org.uk)

News Sheet 1

Society Meeting at The Duncombe Drive Centre, Leighton Buzzard on 30th May, 8pm.

This will feature a talk on the **Local War Memorial** by Andrew Date. Come and hear about the lives of the men named, in particular about the mysterious Joseph Holmes.

- Maureen Brown will invite members to help us learn more about the **Chelsea Pensioners** evacuated to Ascot House, Wing during WWII;
- Members will be invited to help locate where the **Piggott photographs** were taken;
- there will be an update on the watermills project;
- details will be given about our **training excavation**;
- there will be an appeal for local photographs from the **1950s** for an **exhibition** later in the year.

Should be a good evening, do come along and bring your friends.

Town Snapshot – 9/10 September 2006

More people are needed to take pictures of their street this weekend so we get a complete snapshot of Leighton Buzzard and Linslade. We need digital pictures that capture the flavour of the street, not every single house. Please let me know at the above meeting if you are able to help, or on bhorne@globalnet.co.uk.

Discovering the Landscape History of your Parish

Stephen Coleman spoke to a packed Coffee Lounge when he gave his talk at Leighton Buzzard Library on 15th March. In this illustrated talk he showed maps and documents to a fascinated audience as he explained the wealth of information they contained. Places included were: Battlesden, Billington, Chalgrave, Eggington, Heath and Reach, Hockliffe, Leighton Buzzard, Stanbridge, Tilsworth, Toddington and Totternhoe.

After the talk the 56 people present had coffee and heard about future activities from Bernard Jones, Secretary of the Society, and Barry Horne, Chairman. They outlined a range of possible activities and encouraged contributions from the audience.

Thirteen people joined the Society.

An Archaeological and Local History Workshop

The Society entertained members and interested members of the public at The Duncombe Drive Centre, Leighton Buzzard on 19th April.

Those attending were able to look at old maps of Leighton Buzzard and learn about archaeological surveying techniques. A selection of ancient and modern bricks together with other building materials were available for people to examine. The Town Snapshot was explained and a number of people signed up to photograph Town streets on 9/10th September 2006.

A number of projects were discussed including surveys of buildings to record their building materials. Plans for an excavation in the Heath and Reach area were also discussed. Local books were on sale.

A number of people joined and after the meeting the membership stood at 54.

May Fayre

To raise funds the Society had a Pick-a-Ticket stall at this event. Our thanks are due to Joan Horne, who collected all the prizes and folded the tickets, and to the members who gave up their time to sell tickets to raise £243.30.

Web Site – LBD AHS.org.uk

Thanks to Stephen Jones the Society has a presence on the Web.

Chairman's Remarks

It gives me great pleasure to be the Chairman of such a new and vibrant Society. All our events have so far been a great success and I hope you, the members, will continue to support the Society. It is important that we all play a part, however small, so we all have a stake in its continued success. If we all do a little, we achieve a lot.

If you have an idea for a project don't be afraid to come forward and offer to lead it. We will give you what support and encouragement we can. If you have done some research or know some interesting information relevant to the group then tell us about it. Don't worry if it only takes 5 or 10 minutes.

Finally, thanks to all those unsung heroes who do the catering, sell tickets and the thousand and one other jobs that keep our Society running.

Barry

(Hon Sec Bernard Jones, 01525 376550)