



Maidenhead Civic Society **NEWS**

Issue 1/08

February 2008



The east front of Ockwells Manor near Cox Green (see p 13)

In this issue

The End of the Old Cinema? The Chairman visits Ockwells Manor

Regular features on Talks, Outings, the Heritage Centre,
Projects and Planning

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

As I sit writing this, a veil of fine drizzle, hanging from a matt grey sky, is being drawn across the garden, obscuring the view. Hopefully the haze will clear and a brighter day will dawn. Spring is just around the corner and with it the aspirations of new life and growth.

Similarly, I have great hopes for the future of the Society under the new structure we're introducing. This took a step towards reality with the approval of the AGM in November. Transition can sometimes be testing but, hopefully, the only difference most members will notice will be improvements to our services in due course and a wider range of opportunities, both serious and social.

We should all be extremely grateful to our outgoing chairman, John McIntosh, for paving the way so positively for the changes and for agreeing to take on the role as President of the Board of Trustees where his oversight and wisdom will be warmly welcomed as we go forward. The AGM overwhelmingly approved as Trustees the nominations of Rt Hon Theresa May, as the "sitting MP", and Harold James, one of our longest-serving members. They will bring a broader perspective to the Board's deliberations where they will be joined by the officers of the Society and members of the Executive Committee. There remains one vacancy on the Board and nominations for someone with an objective view are welcome.

So, with the Trustees and Ex-Co in place, it's down to business. And you will see from this edition of the News that there is no shortage of issues to address.

Perhaps the most significant development is that the Society has been invited to join a Council partnership on the future of Maidenhead town centre. It's a cross-party group with lay members and an independent chair which, hopefully, will calm the nerves of 95% of the respondents to the Great Debate survey who said "planning should be above politics" – we shall see...

The Crossrail Bill has moved to the House of Lords giving us another opportunity to tell their Select Committee about our concerns on a number of fronts and we're looking into that. We also appear to have started a bit of a debate over the future of that old eyesore, the cinema site. Certainly something has to happen there, but this?

Indeed, there are more areas of potential activity than able-bodied souls to deal with them. So, one of the early challenges we face, in common with many other amenity groups, is how to make ourselves more attractive. This is a topic being addressed by our new Strategy & Policy Group. The Group consists of Nigel Cockburn, Chairman, Bob Dulson, June Jorge, Martin McNamee and Brian Darracott. The approach the Group proposes to follow is to agree the Society's purpose or statement of Mission and Values; develop Strategies, Policies and Specific Objectives; and identify targets and means of achievement. Following its first meeting in December the Group agreed to prepare a preliminary report following its review that would be submitted to the Trustees for consideration.

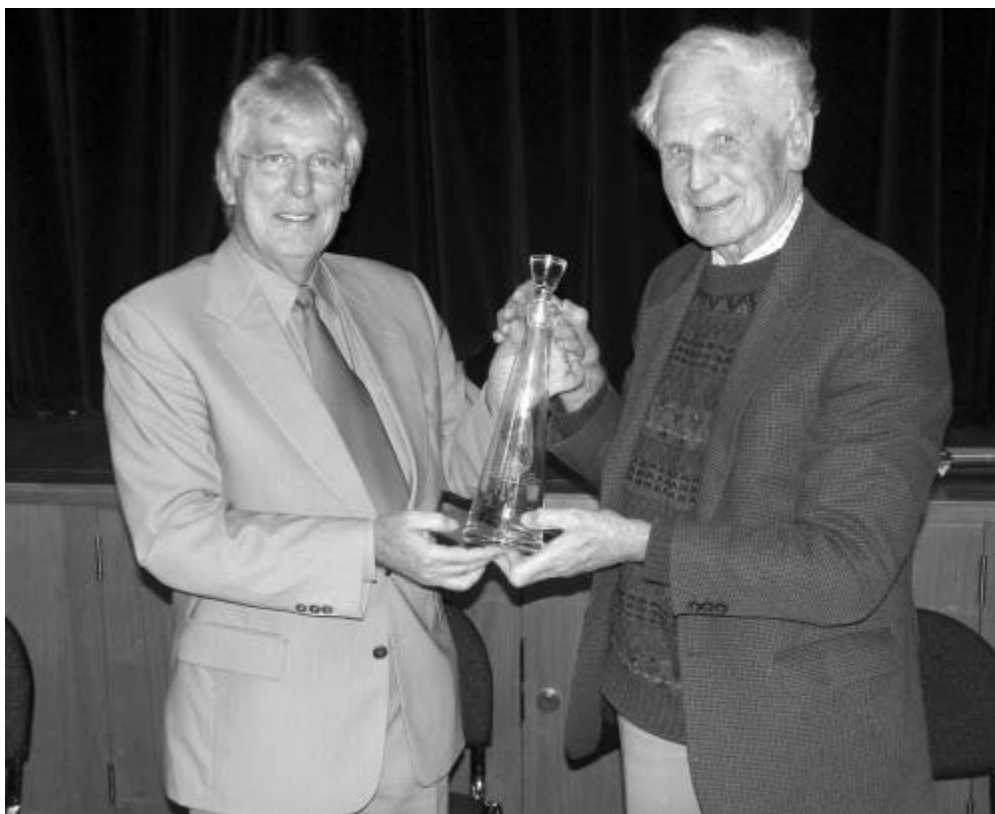
On a personal note, I felt honoured to be asked to take on the role as chairman of this venerable society. I will do my utmost during my tenure to ensure that we are always be mindful of its core values and past achievements as we strive together to make it fit for 21st century purpose.

Happy New Year

Bob Dulson - Chairman

John McIntosh's "outstanding contribution" is recognised

Civic Society members honoured the outstanding contribution of outgoing chairman, John McIntosh at the AGM in November as he relinquished the role and was appointed to the new Board of Trustees. He was presented with an inscribed decanter by his successor as chairman, Bob Dulson.



Last year John, who was chairman for nine years, led a successful Civic Society delegation to the House of Commons to protect Guards Club Park from disruption by the Crossrail. In between time he has played a significant role in most of the Society's activities. Bob Dulson said: "If the Society gave awards, the one for unique individual contribution would go to John McIntosh. He was also instrumental in creating the town's first Heritage Centre. As our chairman, he was an excellent spokesman and, for a traditionalist, he has been a remarkable moderniser. He advocated our first website and more recently played a crucial role in a reorganisation of the Society's structure."

The new structure, designed to make the Society more focused and effective, includes a supervisory Board of Trustees that will set strategy and oversee activities. In addition to John, who becomes President, other appointments to the board approved at the AGM were: Trevor Farnfield (Hon. Treasurer), Harold James, June Jorge (Hon. Secretary) and Rt Hon Theresa May as the sitting MP.

They will be joined by the following Executive Committee members and group chairs: Bob Dulson (chairman), Nigel Cockburn (strategy & policy) who becomes vice-chairman, Ann Darracott (projects), Brian Darracott (communications), Martin McNamee (planning) and Tina Sell (events). The Society is looking for another objective voice to fill one remaining vacancy on the Board of Trustees.

PLANNING MATTERS

SOCIETY GIVEN IMPORTANT ROLE IN TOWN'S FUTURE

Maidenhead Civic Society has been invited to join a council initiative for revitalising the town centre.

Alongside councillors and representatives of other special interest groups, including the Chamber of Commerce and the Waterways Group, former planning group chairman Nigel Cockburn has agreed to take a seat on the Partnership for the Rejuvenation of Maidenhead (PRoM). The Society's new chairman, Bob Dulson, is also involved. He has been asked to be the independent chairman of the partnership. It's still early days for the new group; so far they've met just once to discuss the nuts and bolts of the process. It's expected that more information will become available in the next couple of months but PRoM's task will be to identify and implement agreed solutions for regenerating the town centre. "It's a simple aim for a big job," said Bob.

The move follows repeated calls from the Society for a cross-party approach to planning the town centre but the new partnership seems to have gone a step further in appointing an independent chair.

"Setting up an independent forum is a brave move by the Council but the right one," said Nigel. "It means that those who live and work in Maidenhead – and members of the Society, of course – can hopefully have a proper say in defining its future."

As part of its task PRoM will be taking forward work begun under the Lib-Dem council on a Framework Plan which contained many ideas initially inspired by the Society's Strategic Review and the ensuing *Great Debate* which we organised with the Advertiser.

Bob Dulson

SOME VISION FOR THE ROYAL BOROUGH!

On 29th November 2007, the Maidenhead Advertiser published a letter from Nigel Cockburn about the Local Development Framework (LDF) process. It sets out the Society's views very clearly, and we reproduce it here, as the message is very important:

We understand that there is to be yet further consultation on the Council's Core Strategy for the Borough which is delayed by some 18 months following its rejection by the government inspector as having six policies that were unsound. Let's hope that the new Council listens to the results of this consultation and it counts for something with the inspector. Meanwhile we can expect a further flood of planning applications. The Civic Society is not against development - it would just like it to be development which improves and enhances Maidenhead in a sustainable manner. For instance the Civic Society continues to call urgently for the removal of Maidenhead's eyesores and a regeneration of the town centre- something the inspector said should be part of a plan for the town centre.

The Council clearly failed to manage the process and while the Civic Society complained vehemently to the previous administration during the consultation process about not listening to the results of their own public consultation the inspector largely accepted the developers' representations and legal arguments when it came to housing matters. The position was not helped by late interventions from the Government Office of the South East. In addition the government

has subsequently increased the number of dwellings to be built in the Borough by over 20%.

And where is most of this housing and employment development to take place- well at Maidenhead of course. The Inspector decided to elevate Maidenhead in the hierarchy of locations for development. To its credit the Council argued to protect the existing Green Belt boundaries but failed to demonstrate where the development could be accommodated. The inspector was not persuaded to take into account all the windfall development that occurs such as houses or flats being built in existing gardens. Accordingly the Green Belt boundaries will be reviewed in order to find suitable sites. He also refused to accept the Council's proposals would effectively increase the amount of affordable housing.

So after over two years and hours of work, consultations, piles of paper and three weeks of public examination in the summer the developers carried the day with the inspector. The consultations included the Great Debate which the Advertiser organised with the Civic Society - so much for local democracy. This new government planning process appears to be a large waste of public time and money for local communities and it's happening all over the country.

THE OLD CINEMA SITE – MAIDENHEAD DESERVES BETTER, SAYS CIVIC SOCIETY

A landmark site at the entrance to the High Street deserves something better than an overlarge office block.

That was the reaction of the Civic Society to plans submitted for the long-awaited redevelopment of the old “eyesore” cinema site on the corner of High Street and Bridge Avenue.



Architect's impression of the proposed design

Members of the Society's Planning Group met on Monday to review the detailed planning application. While the design was striking, they said, it did not deliver what required on such

an important site for the town. Retail or leisure use, like cafés or restaurants, on the ground floor would be much more appropriate to the location.

“We welcome proposals for the redevelopment of this site which occupies a key focal point of the High Street and needs regeneration. However, the provision of an office block is totally at variance with what the Civic Society would like to see.”

“There is a serious need to bring some animation to this end of the High Street where it crosses the York Stream,” the group said. “Our preference would have been for a mixed use development with residential units above. There have to be reasons for people to want to frequent the area which should be a busy section of the High Street and an office block is not the answer.”

By creating an attractive entrance to the Greenway beside the York Stream, the design went part way to acknowledging the plans to revitalise the stream as a waterway but it didn’t go far enough.

“There is the potential here to create a really attractive oasis, a focal point in the town centre and to make the connection through the regeneration of the waterway that Maidenhead is a riverside town,” said the Society.



How the scheme might look from the York Stream side

On the Bridge Avenue side, the Group said the proposed building was so close to the pavement it virtually trod on pedestrians’ toes. Bridge Avenue was one of the widest roads in the town centre which lent itself to becoming a tree-lined boulevard. But this opportunity would be lost if the present plans were approved unchanged.

At over four storeys the office block would be higher than the surrounding buildings and dominate the Colonnade. The side of the building alongside York Stream had an overhang that would overshadow the stream and the historic Chapel Arches.

The Group said that the building's height, mass, glass façade and a four and a half storey tower at the front corner was unsympathetic to this part of the Conservation area. The mass of the building should be reduced and the style should more appropriately enhance the stream and the Green Way.

The site represented a unique opportunity to improve the town centre and it was vital to the regeneration of the town that this development's function, architecture and design is appropriate and attractive as it will set the scene for this part of the town for years to come

The Society said the application also demonstrated again the urgent need for development briefs for Maidenhead town centre. "We need to be in a position where we, the town, tell developers what we want to see in certain areas, not to leave it to the whim of the market and developer greed," said vice-chairman, Nigel Cockburn.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

In the past three months the Planning Group has reviewed about thirty planning applications for projects of various scale. We commented on thirteen proposals, of which the most high profile is the "Old Cinema" site on the corner of Bridge Avenue and High Street. So concerned were we that the Society issued a press-release (see above). In summary, the proposals are for a change of use from leisure to office accommodation, with a building over four storeys high which will overshadow the existing Bridge Avenue offices (none of which are over three storeys) and more especially will dwarf the Colonnade. In addition to the comments above, we pointed out that the flow of floodwater will also be restricted by any closing off of Chapel Arches. The proposals for yet another office block will do little to improve the amenity of the area and fail to support any initiative to enhance the Green Way/Waterway facility. In the desire to be rid of this ongoing problem and eyesore, it is important that the solution is satisfactory in the long run.

200 metres to the east, demolition is well advanced at 72-80 Moorbridge Road where another highly visible glass and aluminium office block has already received planning permission, although the Borough have requested improvements to some elevations. Again, the building line is onto the pavement with little landscaping to soften the visual aspect.

We also commented on the improvement to the access area in front of the Maidenhead Library and endorsed the proposals the Society's Projects group to incorporate into the new access ramp an engraved granite plaque devised by Lydia Parker featuring quotes from "Three Men in a Boat" by Jerome K. Jerome.

And finally there is yet another proposal to demolish and develop in Shoppenhangers Road on one of the few locations which have not yet fallen under the ongoing swathe of development.

Martin McNamee

CROSSRAIL BILL PASSES TO HOUSE OF LORDS

The Crossrail Bill completed its Report/Third Reading stage in the House of Commons on Thursday 13 December, and was introduced into the House of Lords on Friday 14 December 2008.

In the debate on 13 December, the Members considered New Clause One. Theresa May reiterated her concerns about Crossrail. She has made it abundantly clear that she believes the service should terminate at Reading not Maidenhead, as is proposed. Her question related to the need for repetition of the Parliamentary process, if indeed it were decided at a later date to terminate at Reading. In answer, Stephen Hammond (Wimbledon, Con) could not give complete reassurance that it would be possible to refer this amendment to the Transport and Works Act 1992 rather than going back into hybrid Bill mode, the reason being that a further Bill would give petitioners in the area the same rights as afforded to those who had been heard by a Select Committee.

The new clause is linked to Financial Provision. Theresa May was anxious to point out that if Crossrail did stop at Maidenhead, works would be required to the station and there would have to be some restructuring of access roads. She felt this cost should not be born by the local taxpayer. She was assured that if the local council were to incur such costs, and they were clearly seen to be costs of providing the Crossrail project, the new clause was intended enable the local council or authority to have the right to seek redress.

Mrs May wholeheartedly supported the new clause, her reasons being that local businesses had feared that they may be asked to shoulder some of the costs of Crossrail because it might be seen to be advantageous to the town but unlike businesses in London, Crossrail might produce a worse train service for Maidenhead therefore bringing fewer benefits.

On introduction in the House of Lords a fresh petitioning period will be triggered, and those directly affected by the Crossrail proposals will have an opportunity to petition against them. The petitioning period set by the House of Lords will start on 8 January 2008 and end on 30 January 2008.

As we, the Maidenhead Civic Society, presented a petition to the House of Commons, it is felt that we should ensure that the House of Lords should also be privy to our feelings about the Crossrail project.

Although some of our concerns have been addressed we do not feel that we are in total agreement with the providers. The House of Lords Committee will only consider the petitions deposited in the House of Lords, not those deposited in the House of Commons.

The areas of concern are Maidenhead Station and the proposed infrastructure around it; the electrification of Maidenhead Railway Bridge and its visual impact, and more clarification on the use of Guards Club Park.

Tina Sell

EVENTS

We have had a very successful programme of talks in 2007. They have been stimulating, informative and generally very well attended. Expenses vary for each talk: some speakers ask for a donation to their cause, others have a set fee, sometimes modest but occasionally quite high. We have also purchased up-to-date equipment for the use of our presenters, and, along with the hire of the Hall, we do incur a number of expenses - on average £100 per talk.

As we wish to continue with subjects that have wide appeal and also inform us, we would like to be able to continue to seek out experts in our areas of interest and not feel constrained by the cost. Therefore, we have decided to ask for donations at the talks and hope this will not deter people from attending.

If you have a view, please let us know by writing to the Editor of the Newsletter.

The Events Group has been busy putting together a programme for 2008 and for the next few months we have:

TALKS

SWAN UPPING – Wednesday 20th February 2008

by David Barber

David Barber has played a part in the Swan Upping tradition for 18 years and became the Queen's Royal Swan Marker in 1993. Preservation is paramount, so in recent years emphasis has also been



Recording the cygnets' vital statistics

placed on educating people about these protected birds. Swan Upping dates from medieval times, when the Crown claimed ownership of all Mute swans at a time when swans were considered an important food source for banquets and feasts. Today, the Crown retains the right to ownership of all unmarked Mute swans in open water, but the Queen only exercises her ownership on certain stretches of the River Thames and its surrounding tributaries. This ownership is shared with the Vintners' and Dyers' Companies, who were both granted rights of ownership by the Crown in the fifteenth century. Nowadays, the swans are counted and marked, but rarely eaten except perhaps occasionally at State Banquets. Swan Upping takes place during the 3rd week of July every year on the Thames from Sunbury to Abingdon to monitor swan numbers on this stretch of river.

THE MAKING OF MAIDENHEAD – Wednesday 19th March 2008

by Brian Boulter

Local historian and Heritage Centre curator Brian Boulter will lead us through the fascinating story of the origin and development of the town of Maidenhead.

BAD GODESBERG TWINNING VISIT and OUTING

The biennial series of twinning visits with Maidenhead will continue with a visit here by a group from Bad Godesberg extending from Saturday 17th May through Monday 19th. The programme is not yet completely worked out and we will not know till the end of the month just how many visitors there will be. However, following a request from the German end **a visit to the cathedral cities of Salisbury and Winchester has been booked for Sunday 18th as part of a regular Civic Society outing.** We will have an opportunity not only to visit these beautiful cathedrals, but also to have some time in each of the towns to look around and to have lunch. We do hope that you can support us and get to know some of our guests.

Other visits being considered include the Heritage Centre, the Town Hall, riverside venues and if possible a visit to the Valley Gardens to see the "Punch Bowl" where the azaleas should be at there glorious best around the time of the visit. The guests will be entertained to dinner at the Odney Club on the Sunday and at the homes of families on the evening of Saturday. A number of Society members have offered to act as hosts but more may be needed when the final number of visitors is known at the end of January. Full details of the programme will be posted on the Society's website as soon as these are settled and of course will appear in the April/May Newsletter.

Tina Sell/Mike Copeland/John McIntosh

THREATENED WITH DEATH IN THE JUNGLE

Tales of a modern day plant hunter

Gun-toting guerrillas in the dangerous Columbian jungle have just captured you. Threatened with death and miles from anywhere, how would *you* spend your last terrifying hours? Most people might resort to prayer but Tom Hart Dyke decided that the best course was to design his dream garden.

Using his pocket diary as a sketchpad, Tom settled down and sketched plans for a unique garden – his World Garden at Lullingstone Castle in Kent.

Plant collecting had been the reason he'd gone to Columbia in the first place and, as Tom explained at last month's Civic Society talk, his World Garden would contain the plants he'd collected from across the globe, planted out in beds each shaped in the form of their respective countries of origin. At the end of that day, thankfully, Tom survived but he had to endure a further nine months of captivity; the ordeal eventually ending when he and his friend, Paul Winder, were released in time for Christmas 2000.

A full audience of Society members and friends heard Tom tell of his early introduction to the beauties and varieties of flowers, particularly orchids. This had taken him on plant hunting expeditions to many remote places – many of them dramatic but none certainly so personally dangerous as the clutches of the guerrillas on the Columbian border.



The World Garden at Lullingstone (in the foreground) from the air

On his return home to Lullingstone near Sevenoaks, where he is known locally as the “plant nut”, Tom and Paul penned the best selling book “*The Cloud Garden*” detailing their experiences in the jungle. The sequel to this story was filmed for two series on BBC Two, “*Save Lullingstone Castle*” and “*Return to Lullingstone Castle*” which followed the progress of Tom’s project envisaged and planned in those jungle days.



Society members enjoy a wander amongst the African plants in the World Garden during the visit to Lullingstone last September

He is still working hard to complete his task and illustrated the efforts involved in converting an overgrown one-acre walled area into the burgeoning show garden that it now is. Not the least interesting of his tales was the use of two pigs to “snoutovate” the ground - successfully and rapidly removing the endemic couch grass, ground elder and other underground nasties from the area. All this while also trying to save his ancestral home of Lullingstone Castle, an historic mansion frequented by Henry VIII and Queen Anne and home to the Hart Dyke’s for twenty generations.

What came across in the talk was his immense enthusiasm and zest for life. His slides showed colourful flowers from every continent and scenes from Tasmania, the remote Andes, South Africa and many others. Indeed his World Garden requires him to win suitable plants from every Continent and region bar the Arctic and the Antarctic.

Tom finished by answering questions divided between his experiences in captivity and his plans for the World Garden and signing copies of his books which were on sale at the event.

Tina Sell / John McIntosh

PROJECTS

GREEN WAY/YORK STREAM

The northern end of the Green Way starts at Cookham and the connection made to the Thames there in 1994 helps provide water for the stream system. Harold James and I, who sit on the Green Way Working Group, take an interest in what happens there and have been attending meetings designed to explain to residents (Harold lives in Cookham) the way the Strande Lane Flood Prevention Scheme is supposed to work. In a nutshell the scheme is to allow more water down the Thames at Odney Weir (sills there have already been removed) and place new bunds on Marsh Meadow at Cookham to try to retain water there while allowing some to flow through a 20-metre gap in the new bunds, near to the Cookham ponds. This water will flow south accumulating north of the North Maidenhead Bund and there will be a new bund at Lightlands Lane to protect nearby properties. A plan to put another bund next to Danes Gardens has apparently been dropped. Unfortunately the Environment Agency (EA) is unwilling to include any clearance of accumulated reeds etc in the watercourse as part of the scheme, saying this constitutes maintenance.



North of Cookham Ponds near where the 20m gap in the new flood bund will be

The EA plans to submit a planning application in a few weeks time and there will probably be information in the press. We suggest any Cookham residents take a close interest. In view of this it has been interesting to observe Cookham this month where there has been partial flooding of Marsh Meadow, mainly on the western side. Interestingly, there is so much water about at the moment

that the White Brook has reversed its flow and is now flowing into the Thames at Islet Park rather than the out of it.



Flooding across the north-west end of Marsh Meadow near the Cock Marsh that includes, to the right, the connection with the Thames constructed in 1994.

OCKWELLS VISIT

In December, by kind permission of Mrs Jill Stein, I was able to visit Ockwells Manor House with a small group including Dr Malcolm Vale of Oxford University and Bob Dulson, the new Chairman of the Civic Society. I have been helping Dr Geoffrey Tyack of Oxford University who is revising the book “Buildings of Berkshire” by Nicolas Pevsner and he asked if I could organise a visit for Dr Vale, who is an eminent medieval historian. It also allowed Bob to see the house that is the subject of a long-standing study by the Society.



Panorama view of the Great Hall - the table isn't really bent!

For those of you unfamiliar with Ockwells, it is a fifteenth century manor house located near Cox Green and is famous for the unique armorial glass, still in its original position in the Great Hall. In 2004 I wrote a brief account of the glass for *Cornerstone*, the magazine of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB). The possibility that Ockwells was about to be destroyed was one of the *causes célèbres* that led to William Morris founding the SPAB in the 19th Century. The house has always been privately owned and is not open to the public. The aim of our project is to make information about the house available for those not lucky enough to see it for themselves.



Left: Detail from one of the windows in the Great Hall show the coat of arms for Sir Hugh Mortimer (d 1460)

Ann Darracott (far left) explains some finer points about the armorial glass



We had a very pleasant morning eating mince pies and drinking coffee in the Great Hall before touring the main rooms and we are very grateful to Mrs Stein both for allowing the visit and for her kind hospitality.

Note:

Those of you who remember the magnificent gardens at Ockwells, that were once open for the National Gardens Scheme, may like to know that Martin Little, of Simply Gardens and former head gardener at Ockwells, who still undertakes projects there, will be talking to the Society on 15th October.

Ann Darracott

HERITAGE CENTRE NEWS

THE COUNTDOWN BEGINS!

Volunteers at Maidenhead's Heritage Centre and Museum are counting the days until they will be able to move to their new home in Park Street. Almost £200,000 is being spent on converting the former Cricketers Arms public house, which was bought at Christmas 2006 after a high profile fund-raising campaign supported by many Civic Society members.

The latest local businesses to support the Heritage Centre's on-going appeal are **Cordwallis Commercials** and **Knight & Company**. Donations are still very welcome, as funds are not yet available to pay for the new displays or for a new glazed lobby at the front of the building. Nevertheless, it is hoped to occupy the building in early February. A team of eager volunteers (new recruits always welcome!) are itching to get their paint rollers out and decorate the building. Once that is done, the office and collection will be moved prior to installing the displays in the galleries and fitting out the museum shop.

It is hoped that the permanent Heritage Centre, with full disabled access, will open to the public in the spring. We would be delighted to welcome any Civic Society who would like to join our team of front-of-house volunteers, which we need to expand to supervise the larger galleries on two floors. It has been announced that the first exhibition will be "Made in Maidenhead", celebrating local industries past and present. Visitors will be astounded to discover what products are still made in a town often dismissed as nothing but offices.

EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS

Antiques Valuation Day: Friday 14th March

Another of these popular events will be held at St Joseph's Church Hall Cookham Road Maidenhead, 10.30am - 2.30pm. £3 Entry includes valuation of first item, thereafter £1 per item. This is a fund-raising event in aid of Maidenhead Heritage Centre.

River Thames Historical Cruises: Wednesday 3rd & Friday 5th September

Cruise the beautiful River Thames between Maidenhead and Bisham, with a live commentary about the buildings, wildlife, environment, people and gossip of the river. Departs Maidenhead (Riverside Gardens) at 9.45am, returns at approx. 3.30pm. Initial reservations now being accepted. This is a fund-raising event in aid of Maidenhead Heritage Centre

At the existing premises in King Street, the gallery and shop are now closed prior to relocation. The office remains open as a Project Office only from 10am to 2pm, Monday to Friday only. The public can contact the Heritage Centre by e-mail on info@maidenheadheritage.org.uk or by phoning 01628 780555. Up to date news will be available via the local press and on our website www.maidenheadheritage.org.uk

SOCIETY CAMERA SURPLUS TO REQUIREMENTS

The Society owns a digital camera which has been used for a number of years now for pictures for the Newsletter and presentations. The progress of modern technology is such that the camera no longer meets our needs and is offered to any member for a reasonable donation to the Society. For further details please contact the Editor.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 20th February 2008

Talk by David Barber

“Swan Upping”

Methodist Church Hall, 8 p.m.

Wednesday 19th March 2008

Talk by Brian Boulter

“The Making of Maidenhead”

Methodist Church Hall, 8 p.m.

Sunday 18th May 2008

Outing

Winchester & Salisbury Cathedrals

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR 2008

Parish Centre in St. Luke's Church, at 7.45 p.m.

8th January, 12th March, 7th May, 9th July, 10th September, 12th November

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETINGS FOR 2008

Parish Centre in St. Luke's Church, at 7.45 p.m.

9th April, 8th October

The AGM will be held on Wednesday 19th November 2007 in the Wesley Hall at the Methodist Church at 8.00pm.

**The closing date for copy for the next issue
of the Newsletter is 11th April 2008.**

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