

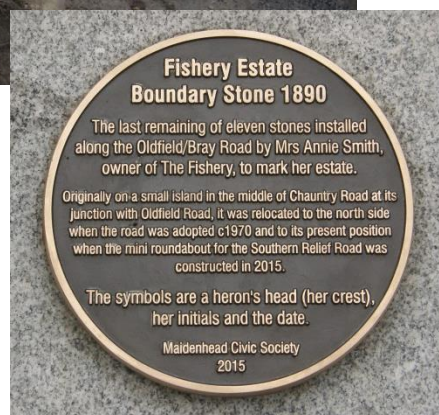


Maidenhead Civic Society NEWS



Issue 1/16

February 2016



Mrs Annie Smith's Boundary Stone back in position – see overleaf

Visit our website: www.maidenheadcivicsoc.org.uk

The Chairman's Foreword

The devastating floods which brought misery and heartbreak for so many in the north of England are a timely reminder of the risks of building in the floodplain.

Locally, the Jubilee River is serving us well but Environment Agency maps still show a large part of Maidenhead could be at risk in extreme weather conditions. Add to that the effect of global warming and it's clear that caution is required.

RBWM planning policy restricts what can be built in the floodplain. However, permitted development guidelines, introduced by the government to speed up the planning process, currently override the Borough's local policy. Consequently, hardly a week goes by without permission being given for two or three developments in the Maidenhead floodplain.

If you share the Society's concern about the long-term effect of such development, a new petition has been created to call a stop to all building and new developments on known floodplains. The petition can be accessed via this link:

<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/117037>

In this edition of the newsletter you will find details of a redrafted constitution for the Society, designed to simplify and streamline the structure. The proposal will be put to an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society on March 10th for approval. In the eight years since we introduced the current constitution, we have found that the twin board structure – Trustees and Executive Committee – was unnecessarily cumbersome and bureaucratic. The revision should improve the way we work and, hopefully, be less intimidating to newcomers. I hope you approve.

Bob Dulson

Fishery Estate Boundary Stone

On 25th January 2016, as we went to press, the last surviving boundary stone of the Fishery Estate of Mrs Annie Smith, dated 1890, was relocated at the junction of Oldfield and Chauntry Roads and an explanatory plaque contributed by this Society placed alongside. Many thanks to Andrew Fletcher and Vikki Roberts of RBWM, Katherine Marshall of Peter Brett Associates and Jon Cartwright and his merry men from Balfour Beattie for making it happen.

Ann Darracott

Notice of an Extraordinary General Meeting

**to be held on Thursday 10th March 2016 at 7.45pm
at the Parish Centre, St Luke's Church, Norfolk Road, Maidenhead**

To Approve Changes to the Society's Constitution

The current constitution was drafted in 2007 and introduced the concept of a two-tier management structure. This was considered appropriate at a time when there was a heightened concern about corporate governance in general and tried to fulfil the good guidance that the “top level” of oversight should be distanced or separated from the “executive management” of an organisation (i.e. to use business language: the Chairman of the Board should not also be the Chief Executive Officer). Thus our current set-up provides for the establishment of what we called a Board of Trustees – 12 in number, all elected – who have the responsibility to ensure the Society properly fulfils its objects. From amongst their number, the Board then appoints an Executive Committee (no specified number of members) who “do/get on with the work” so to speak.

In practice this arrangement has not proven to be satisfactory, principally because as a result of our currently significantly smaller number of active members the Board has essentially become one and the same as the Executive Committee, with only two or three Trustees who are not also Executive Committee members. The reality has also been that some or all of those “non-executive” Trustees have not been able to meet the minimum of two Board meetings a year, and so the meetings of the Board of Trustees have effectively become pointless.

In a nutshell: we were overambitious!

The current Executive Committee have revised and simplified the constitution to, essentially, revert back to the structure we had prior to 2007. We now propose to have one Committee which will be responsible for the running of the Society, and it will consist of the three Officers and between 5 and 9 others – all elected. This gives a Committee with a minimum of 8 and a maximum of 12 members. The proposed revised Constitution is reproduced on the next few pages. If anyone would like a copy of the current version for comparison, please contact the News Editor who will send you one.

The new constitution will need to be adopted by the membership of the Society at large and you are therefore invited to approve the new constitution at a General Meeting which is timed to precede the March Committee meeting, thereby minimising the number of meetings and costs of hiring a room. Please come along and cast your vote! Refreshments will be available!!

CONSTITUTION

(To be adopted at a General Meeting held on 10th March 2016)

1. NAME

The name of the Society shall be the Maidenhead Civic Society.

2. OBJECTS

The Society – a registered charity – is established for the public benefit for the following purposes in the area comprising Maidenhead and district which area shall hereinafter be referred to as “the area of benefit”.

- (i) To stimulate public interest in the area of benefit.
- (ii) To promote high standards of planning and architecture in the area of benefit.
- (iii) To secure the preservation protection development and improvement of features of historic or public interest in the area of benefit.

In furtherance of the said purposes but not otherwise the Society through its Committee shall have the following powers:-

- (1) To promote research into subjects directly connected with the Objects of the Society and to publish the results of any such research.
- (2) To act as a co-ordinating body and to cooperate with the local authority, planning committees, sanitary, drainage and all other local and statutory authorities, voluntary organizations, charities and persons having aims similar to those of the Society.
- (3) To promote or assist in promoting activities of a charitable nature throughout the area of benefit.
- (4) To publish papers, reports and other literature.
- (5) To make surveys and prepare maps and plans and collect information in relation to any place, erection or building of beauty or historic interest within the area of benefit.
- (6) To hold meetings, lectures and exhibitions.
- (7) To educate public opinion and to give advice and information.
- (8) To raise funds and to invite and receive contributions from any person or persons whatsoever by way of subscription, donation and otherwise; provided that the Society shall not undertake any permanent trading activities in raising funds for its primary purpose.
- (9) To take and accept any gifts of property, whether subject to any special trusts or not.
- (10) To sell, let, mortgage, dispose of or turn to account all or any of the property or funds of the Society as shall be necessary.
- (11) When necessary and appropriate, to borrow or raise money for the purposes of the Society on such terms and on such security as the Trustees shall think fit, but so that the liability of individual members of the Society shall in no case extend beyond the amount of their respective annual subscriptions.
- (12) To do all such other things as are necessary for the attainment of the said purposes.

3. MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be open to all who are interested in actively furthering the purposes of the Society. The levels of annual subscription shall be such reasonable sums as the Committee shall determine from time to time, and they shall be payable on or before 1st June each year.

Membership shall lapse if the subscription is unpaid six months after it is due. No member may vote at any meeting of the Society if his or her subscription is in arrears at the time. The subscription of a member joining the Society in the three months preceding 31st May in any year shall be regarded as covering membership for the Society's year commencing on 1st June following the date of joining the Society.

4. **OFFICERS**

The Officers of the Society shall consist of the Chairman, the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer, all of whom shall relinquish their office every year and shall be eligible for re-election at the Annual General Meeting. A Patron or Patrons may also be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Society, for a period to be decided at such a meeting.

Nominations for the election of Officers shall be made in writing to the Honorary Secretary at least 14 days before the Annual General Meeting. The consent of the proposed nominee must first have been obtained and such nominations shall be supported by a seconder. In the case of retiring Officers who are willing to continue in office, no formal nomination shall be required. Nominees for election as Officers shall declare at the Annual General Meeting at which their election is to be considered any financial or professional interest known or likely to be of concern to the Society. The elections of Officers shall be completed prior to the election of further Committee members. The Committee shall have the power to fill casual vacancies occurring among the Officers of the Society.

5. **COMMITTEE and GROUPS**

The Committee shall be responsible for the management and administration of the Society and its members are in law the charity's trustees. The Committee shall consist of the Officers as elected pursuant to Clause 4 above and no fewer than five and not more than nine additional elected members, all of whom shall normally be resident or work in the area of benefit.

One third of the Committee members who are not Officers shall retire each year and shall be eligible for re-election. Any such member who has not attended any meetings of the Committee during the twelve months prior to the Annual General Meeting shall not be eligible for re-election except with the special permission of the Committee. Nominations for election to the Committee shall be made in writing to the Honorary Secretary at least 14 days before the Annual General Meeting. They must be supported by a seconder and the consent of the proposed nominee must first have been obtained together with a declaration of any financial or professional interest known or likely to be of concern to the Society. If the nominations exceed the number of vacancies, a ballot shall take place in such manner as shall be determined by the Committee; in the case of retiring members who are willing to continue to serve no formal nomination shall be required. The Committee shall have the power to fill up to three casual vacancies occurring among the members of the Committee between General Meetings.

The Committee shall meet not less than six times a year at intervals to be agreed and the Honorary Secretary shall give all members of the Committee not less than seven days' notice of each meeting. If the Chairman considers it inappropriate or unnecessary to hold a meeting, he may issue a notice to the Committee members and request that they consider any business by some other means, to include, but not be limited to, electronic mail. The quorum shall be five members of the Committee. In the event of an equality in the votes cast, the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt further members (who shall attend in an advisory and non-voting capacity).

The Committee may constitute such sub-committees ("Groups") as shall be considered necessary from time to time for such purposes as shall be thought fit. The Committee shall

appoint the Chairman of such Groups and all actions and proceedings of each Group shall be reported to and be confirmed by the Committee as soon as possible. Any Committee member may be a member of any Group and membership of a Group shall be no bar to election as a member of the Committee. Groups shall be subordinate to and may be regulated or dissolved by the Committee. The Groups may co-opt individuals with particular insights or skills from inside or outside the Society.

6. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

It shall be the duty of every member of the Committee or member of a Group who is in any way directly or indirectly interested financially or professionally in any item discussed at any committee meeting at which he or she is present to declare such interest and he/she shall not vote thereon.

7. **GENERAL MEETINGS**

An Annual General Meeting shall be held in or about November of each year to receive and approve the Chairman's annual report and annual accounts and to elect the Officers and members of the Committee. The Committee shall decide if and when ordinary General Meetings of members of the Society shall be held and shall give at least 14 days' notice of such meetings to all members. Special General Meetings of the Society may be held at the written request of at least ten per cent of the existing membership of the Society whose subscriptions are fully paid-up.

No business shall be dealt with at any General Meeting unless a quorum is present; the quorum for a general meeting shall be twenty persons, each being a member or a proxy for a member entitled to vote. Every member shall have one vote which may be given either personally or by proxy. A member who wishes to appoint a proxy to vote on his/her behalf at any General Meeting shall so inform the Chairman of the Society in writing, by either letter signed by him/her or by email communication giving the name and address of the proxy, prior to the time when the meeting commences. A member shall not be entitled to appoint more than one proxy to attend the same meeting. A proxy appointed to attend and vote at any meeting instead of a member shall have the same right as the member who appointed him/her to speak at the meeting.

In the case where the nature of the business to be decided is known in advance a member may appoint the Chairman as a proxy, having informed the Chairman in writing with instructions as to how to vote, by either signed letter or by email communication, prior to the time when the meeting commences.

8. **AFFILIATED ORGANISATIONS**

Any organisation operating within the area of benefit with similar objects may become an affiliated organisation with the consent of the Committee and be entitled to nominate one person to attend meetings of the Committee (but without power to vote). There shall be no affiliation fee.

9. **EXPENSES OF ADMINISTRATION AND APPLICATION OF FUNDS**

The Committee shall, out of the funds of the Society, pay all proper expenses of administration and management of the Society. After the payment of the administration and management expenses and the setting aside to reserve of such sums as may be deemed expedient, the remaining funds of the Society shall be applied by the Committee in furtherance of the purposes of the Society.

10. **INVESTMENT**

All monies at any time belonging to the Society and not required for immediate application for its purposes shall be invested by the Committee in or upon such investments securities or

property as it may think fit, subject nevertheless to such authority, approval or consent as may be required by law or by the special trusts affecting any property in the hands of the Committee.

11. **HOLDING TRUSTEES**

Any freehold and leasehold property acquired by the Society shall, and if the Committee so directs any other property belonging to the Society may, be vested in Holding Trustees who shall deal with such property as the Committee may from time to time direct. Any Holding Trustees shall be at least three in number or a trust corporation. The power of appointment of new Holding Trustees shall be vested in the Committee. A Holding Trustee need not be a member of the Society but no person whose membership lapses by virtue of Paragraph 7 hereof shall thereafter be qualified to act as a Holding Trustee unless and until reappointed as such by the Committee. The Honorary Secretary shall from time to time notify the Holding Trustees in writing of any amendment hereto and the Holding Trustees shall not be bound by any such amendments in their duties as holding trustees unless such notice has been given. The Society shall be bound to indemnify the Holding Trustees in their duties (including the proper charge of a trustee being a trust corporation) and liability under such indemnity shall be a proper administrative expense.

12. **AMENDMENTS**

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority of members or their proxies entitled to vote at an Annual General Meeting or General Meeting of the Society in accordance with the provisions of Clause 7, provided that 28 days' notice of the proposed amendment has been given to all members, and provided that nothing herein contained shall authorise any amendment the effect of which would be to cause the Society at any time to cease to be a charity in law.

13. **NOTICES**

Any notice required to be given by this Constitution shall be deemed to be duly given if left at, or sent by prepaid post addressed to the address of that member last notified to the Secretary.

14. **WINDING UP**

The Society may be dissolved by a two-thirds majority of members voting at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting of the Society and confirmed by a simple majority of members voting at a further Special General Meeting held not less than 14 days after the previous Meeting. If a motion for the dissolution of the Society is to be proposed at an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting this motion shall be referred to specifically when notice of the Meeting is given. In the event of the dissolution of the Society the available funds of the Society shall be transferred to such one or more charitable institutions having objects similar or reasonably similar to those herein before declared as shall be chosen by the Committee and approved by the Meeting of the Society at which the decision to dissolve the Society is confirmed. On dissolution the minute books and other records of the Society shall be deposited with Civic Voice.

Planning Matters

There has been a lack of planning applications for major schemes over the last three months. Nevertheless, the monthly meeting of your Planning Group has reviewed around forty proposals and submitted comments on eight applications in that time.

Three of our most recent comments have related to what could be perceived as a potential abuse of the planning system. Where houses (especially semi-detached or terraced) are located on a corner plot there is often an identified opportunity to add on a two-storey side extension. These are clearly “intended” as ancillary living space for the host house. Such extensions are often permitted, where they fit in to the street scene but there is inadequate space to accommodate a separate additional dwelling. Having gained permission for such an extension, and before any building work has commenced, a subsequent application for a separate dwelling house is submitted. The proposed new house occupies the same footprint, but does not connect internally with the host and obviously has its own front door. Such two-stage applications are presumably because permission is believed to be unlikely for a separate dwelling in the first place. The resultant new dwelling is often cramped for living accommodation, and involves unsatisfactory arrangements to provide amenity space, access and parking for two dwelling houses. It is to be hoped that such applications are not permitted by our planners and are discouraged.

A year ago this newsletter reported on proposals to construct a pair of bungalows at the location of lock-up garages behind the parade of shops at 111 to 129 Bridge Road. This application was subsequently withdrawn; it is understood that the applicant did not have ownership of the lock-up garages scheduled for demolition. In November the proposal resurfaced, leaving the garages intact. A small pair of semi-detached houses is now proposed. The location is now referred to as No. 1 The Drive. However, The Drive is the rear service road behind the parade of shops and has a poorly maintained surface and is congested with parked vehicles and manoeuvring lorries. As previously stated, this proposal can be classified as infilling, but the access arrangements are substandard. A decision is awaited.

In our August edition we commented on proposals for the demolition of Nos. 55 and 57 Lower Cookham Road to be replaced by a development of eight houses which would be out of character with the surrounding streetscape and neighbourhood. We are pleased to report that this scheme has been rejected. The ongoing uncertainty about the future use of Braywick Park (currently Green Belt) has resulted in the overambitious plans for the development of Sportsable being put on hold. Likewise, a decision regarding the re-location of the Magnet Leisure Centre to Braywick has yet to be made, but the current Magnet site increasingly features in long term proposals for residential development in the Town Centre.

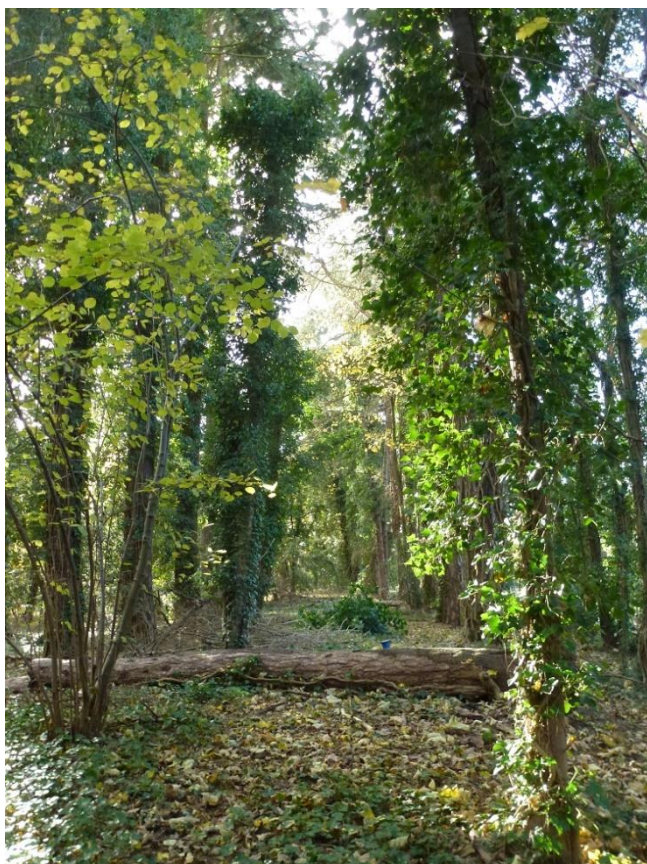
The long-term Borough housing target of 712 new dwellings per year (for 15 years!) has been widely discussed in recent months. This requirement forms a key element of the Maidenhead and Cox Green Neighbourhood Plan which is currently being

drawn up. There are five working groups – each handling a different aspect of the plan. Members of Maidenhead Civic Society should be proud of the active involvement of fellow members in drawing up the plan. Each working group is chaired by a Civic Society representative. It is hoped to have a progress report on the Neighbourhood Plan in the next edition.

As reported last time, our Planning Group has been participating in the reappraisal of the High Street Conservation Area. The updated assessment is about to be published for consultation. We suggest that all members who are interested look out for it on the relevant section of the Borough's website.

The Stafferton Link is nearly completed and it will be interesting to observe the impact on traffic movement and behaviour once the facility has been fully established. Groundwork is well underway on the Berkeley Homes site at Mill Lane Taplow. We are concerned at the level of tree clearance (see below). Furthermore, having suffered the Bridge Road traffic disruption of the Stafferton Link for most of 2015, we can anticipate similar in 2016 with the construction of the new Berkeley Homes roundabout on the Taplow side of Maidenhead Bridge on the A4. It can only be hoped that the construction proceeds at a faster pace than the Stafferton Link.....

CONCERN OVER TAPLOW TREE LOSS



*The grounds of Dunloe Lodge in 2013 BC
(i.e. before chainsaws!)*

More trees are being felled than originally planned on the Taplow Mill site but South Bucks stress that it's "all for good arboricultural reasons".

The Civic Society asked South Bucks and the Royal Borough to investigate the extent of tree and vegetation clearance taking place on the Berkeley Homes site in Mill Lane, Taplow, after several members expressed concern that much more was being cleared than was approved.

The Skindles waterfront at Maidenhead Bridge is being entirely cleared; and the trees and vegetation which provided welcome screening in the grounds of the former gentlemen's residences are being

seriously depleted. For example, we understand that a row of stately redwoods which formed one half of an avenue of tall trees in the grounds of Dunloe Lodge has been felled.



Tree clearance to the north of Dunloe Lodge

During the public consultations on the proposals, assurances were given about the retention of the tree cover which forms an important and valuable element of the vista enjoyed by residents and visitors on the Maidenhead riverside. But looking across the river from Ray Mead Road today, it is obvious that the clearance has gone much further than we were led to expect.



Tree clearance close to Glen Island House

South Bucks planning manager, Stephen Kyle, said: “The felling is greater than indicated in the approved plans because many of the trees earmarked for retention have turned out to be of poorer health and quality than was realised”. He said the council’s arboriculturalist was working very closely with the developers on site. “People will see more felling than had originally been expected, but as far as we aware this is all work that can be justified for good arboricultural reasons.”

We have to assume that Berkeley will institute a replanting programme.

SKINDLES – NOW YOU SEE IT, NOW YOU DON’T!



April 2014



January 2016

Martin McNamee and Bob Dulson

Projects

North Town Moor Pond

The pond, located on the Green Way, was restored by the Society in 1987 but needed desilting again in 2014. The newsletter of Aug 2104 describes both the Civic Society's restoration and the recent work by the Royal Borough. The November 2014 newsletter told how the amenity societies have seeded the pond with an aquatic pond weed to try and increase oxygen levels. To check what was happening in the pond monthly sampling has been carried out, starting in Feb 2015. The November edition also said prophetically: *"The Make Space for Life Group is willing to keep an eye on the pond. If necessary weed will be removed"*

In November we were not sure that the pond weed (Hornwort) would survive the winter but it did – in spades! At one point the ducks on the pond were walking on it to get to their little house. The Royal Borough had a contractor remove some in August 2015 and the Make Space for Life group removed a lot more in September. The reason for removal is that the weed dies off in the colder weather and its decay could have drastically reduced oxygen levels.



North Town Pond full of weed September 2015



Make Space for Life volunteers: Owen Hibben (NT Warden), John Francis & Jeremy Williams helping to clear the weed in September

Happily, mayfly nymphs, an indicator of good oxygen levels, have been found in abundance especially in the colder months so the removal seems to have worked. Faunal diversity has increased generally and in July and August we recorded newt larvae. The data have been passed on to the Royal Borough.

Unhappily, some idiot decided to dump assorted household items into the pond which the Make Space for Life group then had to retrieve (right). We are grateful to Steve Spender of the Royal Borough for having these taken away, to ensure that another idiot didn't tip them back into the pond. A letter was sent to the *Advertiser* berating the offender!



Ann Darracott

Events

VISIT TO LILLIBROOKE MANOR, Cox Green, Maidenhead – Wednesday 6th April 2016

We have arranged a private guided tour of Lillibrooke Manor, to be followed by an afternoon tea. Lillibrooke is located immediately to the west of Ockwells Manor. It is a Grade II listed complex of manor house, barns and other farm buildings dating certainly from the C16th, if not before. It was also known as Lowbrooks. The complex has a new owner – Charlotte Alberto.



Lillibrooke Manor house (photo courtesy of Charlotte Alberto)

The visit will include a tour of the site and a talk about how the buildings are being used at the moment and what the future plans are, together with some of the problems faced in conserving and using these ancient buildings. We will also see the inside of the old manor house, until recently a private house. This complex of buildings is well worth seeing. This will be followed by an afternoon tea. Please be at the Manor by 2.15pm for a 2.30pm start. The cost, to include the tea, is £12.00 per person for Society members and £14.00 for non-members.

Note: The manor is off Ockwells Road which is one-way. Don't use the postcode to find it as you will be led astray. Follow signs to it from the second roundabout on Shoppenhangers Road after crossing the A404M. If you end up in Ockwells Park you have gone the wrong way! Lillibrooke is at the end of a drive on the left as you approach the junction of Ockwells Road and Woodlands Park Road.



The barn at Lillibrooke



The barn set up for a wedding reception (photo courtesy of Charlotte Alberto)

Linked History of Ockwells and Lillibrooke/Lowbrook

Probably because of its proximity to Ockwells Manor house, both places have in the past had a common owner. In the C19th William Henry Grenfell, Lord Desborough owned both and both were farms with the manor house being the tenant's house. Both would later be owned by Sir Edward Barry who lived at Ockwells from the end of the C19th.

At Ockwells there is one unidentified armorial achievement in the glass in the Great Hall. Coats of arms in this have been attributed to Englefield of Lowbrook and Bulstrode (see below). I have therefore been doing some digging, with the cooperation of new owner, Charlotte Alberto, and with help from new Society member Mike Hockley, to find out who owned Lillibrooke in the mid-C15th.

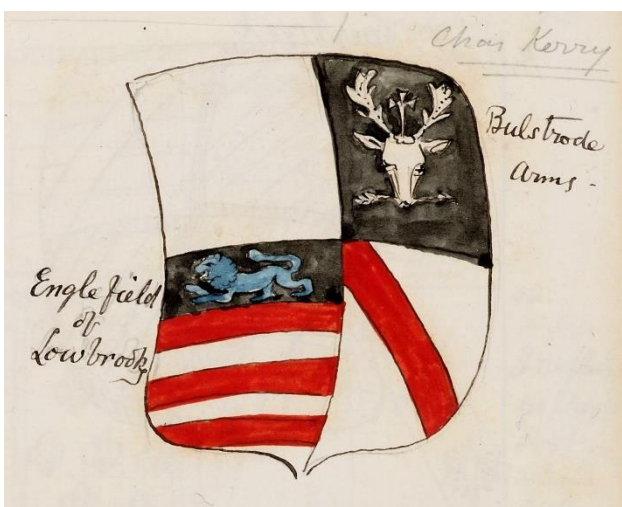


Photo of unidentified coat at Ockwells today (left) and a copy by Charles Kerry of an C18th drawing by Sir Thomas Reeve of this achievement showing that the upper two quarters have been replaced (drawing in the Bodleian Library, Oxford)

However, it transpires that the Englefields did not own Lowbrooks until the mid-C16th though an interesting connection with Ockwells has been uncovered. Living at Ockwells in the mid-C16th was Sir Francis Englefield, married to Katherine Fettiplace, a descendent of John Norreys who built Ockwells. Around the same time his younger brother John held Lowbrooks and probably lived there. John Englefield may have either built the house or put up the wooden panelling there – panelling similar to that at Ockwells.

Note: Lillibrooke is one of the green-belt sites in this area that in 2012 was on a RBWM map put forward for housing. In 2014 these were all rejected on green-belt grounds, BUT they said: “*The rejection of sites through this study does not necessarily mean that they will not be delivered in the future*”!

Ann Darracott

Booking Form

Lillibrooke Manor

Wednesday 6th April 2016 2.15 for 2.30 pm

Please cut out and send this completed form,
together with your cheque/postal order,
payable to "MAIDENHEAD CIVIC SOCIETY", to reach
Mike Copeland, 14 Laburnham Road, Maidenhead, Berks, SL6 4DB

not later than Monday 9th March 2016

NAME

ADDRESS

.....

.....POSTCODE

TELEPHONE No.

E-MAIL ADDRESS

(Please include this if you have one)

I wish to book

..... places on the visit for Civic Society members @ £12.00: = £.....

.....places on the visit for non-members @ £14.00: = £.....

Please treat any profit on this outing as a Gift Aid Donation (please tick).....

(You must pay an amount of income tax or capital gains tax equal to the tax we reclaim on your donation)

If you have any problems or for last minute cancellations, please contact Mike Copeland without delay on 01628 634181 or mobile 07770 421221

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Society members may also be interested in the following talks organised by local history and archaeology groups:

Maidenhead Archaeological & Historical Society (MAHS)

(Talks held the RVS Centre, 42 York Road, Maidenhead SL6 1SH; 7.30 for 8pm; visitors £2; contact 01628 630924 for talks, and 01628 629614 for outings)

Wednesday 24th February: *London Oddities*, by Sally Botright

Wednesday 30th March: *The Dramatic Art of the London Underground* by Mike Grundy

Wednesday 27th April: AGM followed by a talk on the “*For King and Country*” project

Saturday 21st May: Outing to Marlborough & Bowood, Wilts. (dep at 8.30 am)

Wednesday 25th May: *Purpose Built Villages* by Trevor Ottlewski

Saturday 18th June: Outing to the Museum of Army Flying and Mottisfont (NT) Hants (dep at 8.30am)

Wednesday 29th June: *The Dam Busters* by Mike Whitehouse

Marlow Archaeology (MA)

(Talks held at the Liston Hall, Marlow, SL7 1DD; £4 non-members; contact 01628 523896)

Thursday 25th February, 8pm: *Stonehenge Hidden Landscapes - the landscape revealed*, by Paul Garwood (Jointly with AiM)

Thursday 10th March, 8pm: *Searching for daily life and community in Anglo-Saxon settlements*, by Dr Sally Crawford

Thursday 14th April, 8pm: *The Origins of Wessex: the archaeology of the Upper Thames Valley, 5th-7th centuries*, by Prof. Helena Hamerow

Thursday 12th May, 8pm: *Buildings archaeology: new evidence at Hampton Court Palace*, by Deirdre Forde (*To be followed by MAS AGM*)

Thursday 16th June, 8pm: *The Medieval Greyfriars excavations at Westgate, Oxford*, by Ben Ford

Archaeology in Marlow (AiM)

(Talks held at the Liston Hall, Marlow, SL7 1DD; £4 non-members; contact 01628 485961)

Thursday 25th February, 8pm: *Stonehenge Hidden Landscapes - the landscape revealed*, by Paul Garwood (Jointly with MAS)

Thursday 24th March, 8pm: *Finding a Roman Burial & a Saxon Hoard*, by Ros Tyrell, Bucks County Museum

Thursday 23rd April, 8pm: *Woodland archaeology: secrets of the wildwood*, by Stuart King

Monday 23rd May, 8pm: *The Watlington Hoard*, by James Mather

News from the Heritage Centre

EXHIBITIONS

Maidenhead From The Air – free exhibition runs until 27 February 2016

There is still time to visit this exhibition, with over 100 fascinating aerial photographs of Maidenhead and the surrounding area, dating from the 1920's to the present day. Some of the photographs were taken by Fairey Air Surveys, based at White Waltham for 20 years, while others have been taken by modern drones. You might even be able to spot your house!

The Changing Face Of Maidenhead – starts 3 March 2016

LUNCHTIME TALKS

Don't forget that there is a lunchtime talk at the Heritage Centre at 12.45pm on the second Thursday of every month.

Thursday 11 February – “Jane Austen and Knowl Hill Church”

Speaker: Ann Griffin

Thursday 10 March – “Maidenhead and the Beer Business”

Speaker: Keith Parry

Thursday 14 April - to be announced on www.maidenheadheritage.org.uk

PAID CURATOR APPOINTED

The professionalisation of the Heritage Centre operation continues with the appointment of its first ever paid Curator, following the retirement of Brian Boulter who was Hon. Curator for 20 years. Nick Forder brings wide experience in the museum world, including at the Manchester Museum of Science and Technology and has a particular interest in military and aviation history, which is very relevant to our local aviation story. Meanwhile our first ever paid Learning Officer, Virginia Jenner, is leaving after two years to take up a full time position at the London Transport Museum. In her time in Maidenhead she has established strong links to local primary and secondary schools, with a series of workshops for primary schools on everything from the Stone Age and the Romans to Brunel and the two world wars.

JOIN OUR VOLUNTEER TEAM

We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to join our team, in particular to help with curatorial work, school visits and front-of-house work. Visitors frequently remark on the friendliness and helpfulness of our volunteers and we would be delighted to tell you more about the various roles available. Please contact us on 01628 780555.

FLY A SPITFIRE IN HALF TERM!

Grandchildren staying in half term? They will love our popular Spitfire simulator which is a permanent feature of our Air Transport Auxiliary exhibition. You can take off from White Waltham, loop-the-loop over Windsor Castle and even land at Heathrow. Call 01628 780555 to book your flight.

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 10th March 2016
Extraordinary General Meeting

Civic Society EGM, to adopt new Constitution
Parish Centre, St Luke's Church, Norfolk Road, 7.45pm

Tuesday 29th March 2016
Talk

Virtual Tour of Bisham Abbey, by Ann Darracott
For the Marlow Society, at the Liston Hall, Marlow,
SL7 1DD, 8.00pm.

Wednesday 6th April 2016
Visit

Lillibrooke Manor
2.15 for 2.20pm at the Manor

CIVIC SOCIETY – KEY CONTACTS

President of the Trustees	John McIntosh, 26 Harvest Hill Road, SL6 2QQ	633259
Hon. Secretary	Eileen Goford, 6 Laxton Green, SL6 3HW	638238
Hon. Treasurer	Mike Emmerson, 15 Twynham Road, SL6 5AT	628006
Executive Chairman	Bob Dulson, Bryher, Islet Road, SL6 8HT	627130
Planning Group	Martin McNamee, 14 Lower Cookham Road, SL6 8JT	623203
Projects	Ann Darracott, 6 Medallion Place, SL6 1TF	620280
Communications	Brian Darracott, 6 Medallion Place, SL6 1TF	620280
Outings Organiser	Mike Copeland, 14 Laburnham Road, SL6 4DB	634181
Membership Sec.	Joyce Delasalle, 7 Laxton Green, SL6 3HW	637342
Newsletter Distribution	Sue Ross, Castle Hill Lodge, St Marks Road, SL6 6DG	626849
Events	Tina Sell, Marlborough, River Road, Taplow, SL6 0BB	628675

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR 2016

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

6th January, 9th February, 10th March, 12th April, 10th May, 14th June, 12th July, 13th September, 11th October,
8th November, 13th December

The AGM will be held on Wednesday 16th November 2015 in the Parish Centre in St. Luke's Church at 8.00 pm.

**The closing date for copy for the next issue
of the Newsletter is 15th April 2016**

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