

Your Haslemere

The Newsletter of The Haslemere Society Spring 2018

Letter from our Chairman



Welcome to the new format of our newsletter. The newsletter comes at a time when the Society is changing its ways of working and moving to a model where most of our members will receive this newsletter by digital communication.

Our aim is to broaden the scope of the newsletter so that, in addition to the familiar reports from members of the committee about the Society's activities, we will widen its remit and feature a broad range of local activities, societies and items of interest.

We plan to include items from the Civic Voice national news bulletins, as well as featuring events of interest in Haslemere, together with photographs and diary dates - and no doubt requests for volunteering!

To deliver your new-look newsletter we have assembled a strong team under the editorship of Gareth David. Particular thanks go to Chris Harrison and Di Keeley for many hours of work in compiling the newsletter.

We very much welcome your opinions and suggestions for future issues, as this is your Society, so please do not hesitate to contact us with any ideas at info@haslemeresociety.org or by leaving a note with the Museum, addressed to The Haslemere Society.

In our planning report we share our approach to the proposals for The Georgian Hotel, which is such an important asset for our community. Whatever the outcome, the hotel can only thrive if it is patronised and we encourage members to sample the immediate improvements that have been made to the restaurant and bar.

We hope you enjoy the newsletter,

Jane Stopford Russell

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Working Groups of the Haslemere Society

In order to allow the Society to operate more effectively as an influential voice on local affairs, we have moved away from management by a central committee and set up four working groups that will focus on specific aspects of our work: town planning, heritage, environment and events, together with a dedicated team that will oversee marketing and our communications. **We are always keen to hear from members who would like to become involved in these activities.**

Town planning

The Society's appraisals and comments on planning applications are based on trying to ensure that an application will not have an adverse effect on the character and amenity of the town and, where possible, enhance these. We are also keen to see that our heritage and the conservation area are protected. We have a group of four members undertaking this task. Only significant applications are examined, so small domestic extensions are not considered.

Our Planning Group is definitely not anti-development, as every prospering town has to grow and change to cater for changing requirements. However, the quality of information given in many applications is poor and inadequate. In its Local Plan, Waverley Borough Council undertakes to ensure 'high quality development' which cannot be ensured with such applications, so the Society's comments often refer to this. Our comments are sent to WBC Planning department and we hope that (increasingly) these are being recognised by the planners.

Heritage



Haslemere has a long and fascinating history dating back to its being given a Royal Charter in the reign of Richard II, which was renewed in the reign of Elizabeth I. To date, celebration of this history by the Society has focused on the town walks that former President, Robert Serman, has led and on the blue plaque scheme which we launched ten years ago. Today, there are 12 plaques around the town, nine celebrating famous people and three celebrating important events in the town's history.

Looking ahead, we see great scope to extend our work in many ways. We could erect more blue plaques and produce a leaflet to use as a blue plaque trail. This leaflet could have QR codes which would enable people to read the already quite extensive information about each of the plaques

Working Groups of the Haslemere Society (cont.)

that is available on our website. We can also increase awareness of the fascinating local photographs under #throwbackFriday on the Society's facebook page and we can work with Haslemere Museum to explore how we could become involved in exhibitions celebrating different aspects of the town's history.

Environment



At the heart of the Society's work is its focus on environmental matters which, at a strategic level, means understanding Waverley Borough Council's (WBC) Local Plan for the town and lobbying for changes and amendments where we feel they are necessary. We also keep a close eye on the Council's plans and activities and make representations where appropriate.

Over the years, the Society has promoted and championed a series of projects ranging from the 'local listing' of unlisted buildings, conservation area extension (up to Courts Mount Road) and work party events assisted by other civic groups, clearing untidy areas and focusing the Council's attention on litter and general untidiness.

Parking is one of the major blights of the town, and the Society believes that the Council could introduce more restricted parking to manage commuters and to enable residents to park. We will also look at opportunities to improve traffic flow and at enhancements to the town, such as Clement Corner, an unsightly area at the junction of Weydown Road and Wey Hill, which was transformed into an attractive open space.

Events

Our traditional calendar of events has included twice yearly meetings for members in April and November, along with our popular summer party in June. These have proved so popular that we have moved the meetings from the museum to Haslemere Hall, to accommodate the number of members wishing to attend, while interesting venues chosen for our summer parties have included the Undershaw, St Christopher's Church and Shottermill Hall. We believe that there is real scope for increasing the number and range of our events and would welcome any members who would be willing to help with their organisation.

Planning Report

Lythe Hill Hotel

Following the original submission in April 2017 for multi £million extensions, further information has been submitted. The Society is supporting the application in principle but considers that there is still inadequate information about building quality and detail, given the need to prove a very special case to build in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and an Area of Great Landscape Value (AGLV). We also have concerns regarding external lighting, sewerage, waste water drainage and adequate road improvements on the dangerous bend in the Petworth Road. WBC has yet to determine the application.

48 Petworth Road

Application to build two large houses. Following the submission of further information, the Society felt that this did not adequately address concerns previously expressed and registered its view that the application should be refused. WBC has refused the application.

Recreation Ground Pavilion



An earlier application for a change of use to permit use as a nursery school was withdrawn following adverse comment. The Society has expressed the view that the recent application does not adequately address the measures necessary to adapt the premises for the additional use and still provide the normal sports facilities. Whilst appreciating the reasons for the application, the Society is keen to see that it is also

maintained for its original sports-based purposes. WBC has yet to determine the application.

Kings Road Flats

The Society has raised no objection to the demolition of an existing house and construction of 6 flats, but again has referred to the inadequate information on building materials and details to ensure a high-quality development. WBC has yet to determine this application.

Cortium Sports Barfold Farm

A recent application to relax conditions imposed by the Appeal Inspector when allowing polo activities in the AONB area has been refused by WBC. The Society made strong objections to this application.

Flats Development, Petworth Road

An application by Renaissance Homes to build 21 Flats following demolition of two detached houses was refused by WBC, with road safety aspects featuring in the refusal. The Inspector's decision on an appeal is awaited.

The Georgian Hotel

As is well known, some two decades ago the Society fought hard and was successful in saving the hotel as an asset for the town in the face of considerable pressure to convert the property into flats. Having fallen into administration yet again, the hotel was sold to new owners in August 2017 who have indicated an



intention to carry out residential development to the rear of the hotel (subject to planning approval) and to later upgrade the hotel whilst taking on its management.

Inadequate management would seem to have been a factor in the hotel's past demises and the Society feels that expert management and upgrading of the hotel are high priorities requiring early attention to ensure the continuation of this hotel as an attraction and asset to the town.

Maintenance of the attractiveness of the grounds of the hotel is an important factor in this town centre conservation area and the Society will want to see that returns from residential development do not detract from a focus on providing an attractive, well managed and competitive hotel. A planning application is awaited.

Wey Hill Car Park

WBC is again putting forward proposals to surface this common land and charge for parking. The previous proposal was withdrawn in 2010 in the face of public protest. The Council plans to make an application to remove the common land status of the area, which will be necessary for any future development.

Haslemere Vision (HV) is putting forward proposals for a mixed development in their Neighbourhood Plan, which the Society supports in principle, but WBC 's intentions will be in conflict with these proposals. The HV proposals are based on their comprehensive public consultations and the Society considers that any WBC proposals should be similarly subjected to public consultation.



Red Court

This recently sold estate has been placed on the market by its new owner, with, we understand, in excess of 50 acres being retained. The property is situated in an important AONB and AGLV and The Society will be closely monitoring any proposals for development. The land is situated between Scotland Lane, Bell Vale Lane and the Midhurst Road and is a continuation of the beautiful Chase Valley and Valewood Park owned by the National Trust.

Longdene House

Note: A longer article about Longdene House and its history follows on the next page



An outline application has been made to demolish this example of a fine Victorian building and replace it with a block of flats. The application included a report which purported to be a condition survey (which it wasn't) to try to justify the building's demolition. The Society has urged WBC to get a realistic report on its condition and to consider making a preservation order on this important example of Haslemere's Victorian heritage. We also referred to the traffic this would generate along the narrow Longdene Road - additional to that from other adjacent new housing recently given planning approval. WBC have yet to determine this application.

John Greer

Haslemere Heritage: Longdene House

Contributed by Tony Bennett, Society member

(abridged for the paper version of the February newsletter)

The aim of this article is to show the value of Longdene House as a Heritage Asset, which should be safeguarded on account of its

- place in the building heritage of Haslemere and West Surrey, representative of a time of permanent change in the town's social history
- merits as an attractive and unspoilt example of a substantial house of its time, contributing to the character of the Surrey Hills AONB
- association with its most well-known former owner - railway entrepreneur James Cholmeley Russell.

Late Victorian Haslemere

The year 1859 marked a watershed in the history of Haslemere. The long-awaited extension of the London and South-Western Railway from Godalming was opened and thereafter began the growth of Haslemere from a small village to a popular and fashionable town.

In 1882, in the first example of its kind locally, land owned by prominent local resident J W Penfold, comprising the "Courts Hill Estate" was offered in a comprehensive scheme of marked out plots, suitable for the erection of gentlemen's residences. Courts Hill Road and Courts Mount roads are the results.

These contain many of the substantial properties which form Haslemere's Victorian and Edwardian building heritage, itself part of the wider West Surrey setting. Although named architects cannot usually be linked with these houses, they nevertheless reflect the high standards of those who did practice locally, including Shaw, Lutyens, Voysey and other Arts and Crafts exponents.

The Haslemere Conservation Area extends into parts of these roads and thus the significance of some of the principal properties has been acknowledged. There are, however also others outside the HCA which are of comparable merit. The Haslemere Local Survey Group in its 2006 Report on Area 1 identified and reviewed the history and architectural features of 16 properties, mainly from this era, considered of heritage value. Collectively these properties represent one of the most important periods of Haslemere's recent social history. Individually many of them have been identified as qualifying as Buildings of Local Merit, one such property being Longdene House.

Longdene House

It was in this context that, in the 1870's, Longdene House was built in on the other side of the Courts Hill Estate boundary which extended to Hedgehog Lane / Longdene Road. The first owner

Haslemere Heritage: Longdene House (cont.)

was Samuel Mason, a hydraulics engineer and manufacturer of fire engines under the name of Shand & Mason.

It was in fact a small estate, itself on the outlying slopes of the hills but within what is now the nationally protected Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

In the early 1900s the Estate comprised over 55 acres. More than 36 acres were directly attached to the House, being the “pleasure gardens” with extensive tree coverage and grounds which included stabling and garages. The sizeable property was built of stone and had four main reception rooms and a billiard room.

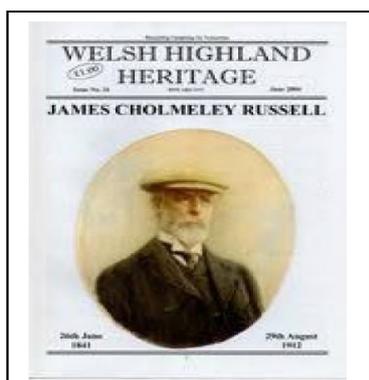
The House is three storeys tall taking further advantage of its natural elevation of over 180 metres above sea level. In particular the attractive roof line of gables and extended chimneys was calculated to stand out on the skyline as the first important house that is seen on one of the main routes into Haslemere, from Midhurst. The House has correspondingly unbroken panoramic views over three Counties. Internal and external features would have been consistent with the status of the property and its owners.



Unlike many of its contemporaries, due to the setting of the house within its substantial grounds already containing a lodge and ancillary cottages, Longdene House has not yet been adversely affected by in-filling.

Included within the Estate was a further 18 acres encompassing the adjoining Sturt Farm - itself a property of historic rural significance to Haslemere, with remaining farm outbuildings three of which are today Grade 2 Listed and another a Building of Local Merit.

James Cholmeley Russell



Given the reputation which the surrounding hills had for supposed beneficial health effects (in 1897 Sir Arthur Conan Doyle had built Undershaw at Hindhead to improve his wife’s health), it may be that when Russell acquired Longdene House from Rev W E Jackson in 1906, a key consideration was his own poor health. Living with his wife Eleanor and daughter Margaret, in addition to the seven servants retained by the household, there were two nurses to attend to Russell.

Haslemere Heritage: Longdene House (cont.)

Born in Bloomsbury, London, Russell was a prominent member of the bar, editor of a standard legal textbook on family law: a leading member of his profession. It is clear though that his passion lay with railways, and this is where his main legacy lies: as a railways manager, investor and entrepreneur in particular in the railways of North Wales.

His interest in modern technology of the day was not confined to railways. He owned a succession of large Steam Yachts - a combination of steam driven and traditional sailing boat and was an early adopter of the motor car. According to Rev. Aitken of St Bartholomew's, his involvement in the local affairs of Haslemere was curtailed by his illness.

Russel died in 1912. For his funeral he would have appreciated that an additional carriage was added to the Haslemere to Guildford train to take the entourage on its way to Merrow, where the service took place at the family burial ground. It was conducted jointly by the Rector of Merrow and Rev.G H Aitken, Rector of St Bartholomews, Haslemere.



The 1906 Russell steam engine-restored and unrestored

Tony Bennett

(abridged from the original article)

Haslemere Heritage: The Lost Sons of Haslemere

Contributed by Shirley Harrison

Every year at 11am on Remembrance Sunday, Haslemere High Street falls briefly silent, and the names on the war memorial are solemnly read out to a hushed crowd. There are 62 names from the First World War and 47 from the Second. It is a moving ceremony, but I am sure that I am not alone in having wondered who these men really were. Each one was someone's son, husband, sweetheart, brother or friend. The loss of each one devastated a family. In 2014, as the centenary of the start of the Great War was coming up, I decided to do some research into the identities of the 62 men who died 1914-1919.

I have a background in family history research, and the first challenge I set for myself was to build up family trees for the 62. Who were their parents? Where did they live? What did they do for a living? Did they leave a wife and children behind? How old were they when they died? How did they die? It was later that I became interested in the military details, and the project has expanded in scope considerably.

Some of the results were quite surprising. I had expected most of them to be very young men, and indeed nine of them were under 21; but eleven were over 35, one (Chief Stoker George Booker) being 45. Not all the men had an obvious connection with Haslemere at first glance; for example, Private Owen Owens was a Welsh miner who never lived here, but his sister Elizabeth married a Haslemere man, William Madgwick, and lived in King's Road. Only 26 were actually born in Haslemere. It might not be surprising that 19 of the men were married and left a total of 30 children behind without a father; but it did shock me slightly that some of those had volunteered quite early in the war. There must have been pressures to join up that we find hard to understand today.

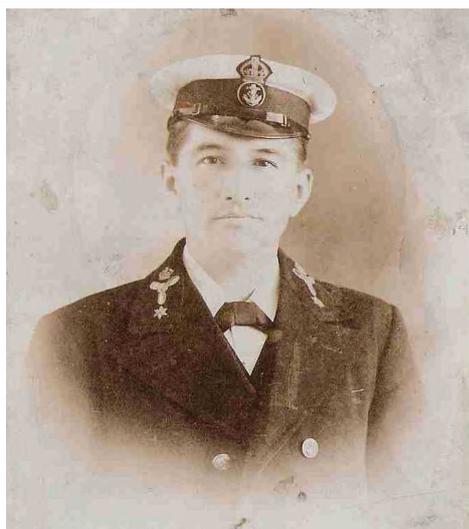
Establishing the cause of death was a particularly depressing exercise. 39 men were killed in action, 8 died of wounds sustained in battle, and one (Lieutenant Maurice Fitzmaurice) was shot by a sniper. It somehow seems unlucky that a further 9 died of illness, and 4 died in accidents. Driver Edmund Bartlett was accidentally shot by a friend; Chief Stoker George Booker was swept from the deck of a submarine and drowned; Sergeant Ernest Myson was wounded and on board a hospital ship bound for home when it hit a British mine, and 2nd Lieutenant Wilfrid Unwin fell from his horse when it was spooked by a British shell. The cruellest fate befell Lieutenant Howard Stables, a published poet aged only 21, who died at Anna-I-Yat near Baghdad in 1917. He was wounded and left behind by his retreating comrades, and "is presumed to have died in enemy hands".



Haslemere Heritage: The Lost Sons of Haslemere (cont.)

Unsurprisingly, the men came from a wide social spectrum. A few of the “other ranks” were already regulars in the army, or in one case the navy, on the outbreak of war. Three had emigrated to Australia before the war and volunteered for the Australian Infantry. The majority of the rest were labourers, gardeners, butchers, bakers, grooms, house painters, blacksmiths, carpenters etc. Several lived in Shepherd’s Hill, King’s Rd, Wey Hill, Scotland Lane, Kilnfields and Pathfields. Three were born in the workhouse. Six of the men were officers. Captain Charles Pollock’s father eventually became Viscount Hanworth and Master of the Rolls; his widow lived at “Strathire” on the Grayswood Road during and after the war. 2nd Lieutenant Wilfrid Unwin’s parents lived at Town House, in the High Street, and his father George Unwin was part of the printing and publishing family.

The most exciting discoveries have been photographs. The Farnham Museum has DVDs of the Farnham, Haslemere and Hindhead Herald for 1914-1918 which reported many of the Haslemere losses. It can be quite eerie to see those brave faces from the past staring out of a screen, and to read excerpts from the letters their families received from chaplains and officers when the terrible news was broken.



Chief Stoker George Booker, accidentally drowned in the North Sea, 31 July 1918



Lieutenant J Howard Stables, wounded and died in enemy hands, Mesopotamia, 17 Feb 1917

If you come to the Haslemere Society AGM in November you will be able to hear a talk, given by my husband Chris, containing much more details of some of the stories I have uncovered.

Shirley Harrison

Haslemere Heritage

RECORDS OF HASLEMERE IN THE PAST: a request for your help

Members Remember: Haslemere in past decades

As part of our commitment to sharing more about Haslemere's heritage, we would love to hear the memories of members who have lived in Haslemere during past decades. We hope that they will be able to help us to cast light on what it was like to live here in the past.

Perhaps you have a school memory, or a memory of travelling through the town, of visiting the cinema or even of some of the retailers who were previously part of the town landscape.

Can anyone remember the first traffic lights, or even the first zebra crossing?

Photographs of Haslemere



We would welcome any photos you might have of Haslemere life, past or present, that we could add to our public record of our town.

Our Facebook page, ably managed by Godalming Six Form College Student Callum Hall, has been posting such photographs for a number of years, and these have provided a fascinating insight into Haslemere life. Recent posts have included 'then and now' photographs of Petworth Road, St. Stephen's Church and the Fairground Car Park. These enable memories of Haslemere to come to light: for example, a post of Grayswood Road led to recollections of the different shops there, including "Dickie Barker's chainsaw shop".

This is creating an important archive for the town.

The Lost Sons of Haslemere

Are you related to or have any other connections with any of the men on the Haslemere memorial? Do you have photographs or other memorabilia? If so, please contact info@haslemere.com and we will forward your information to Shirley Harrison to include in her research discussed in the previous article.

Shirley is cooperating with The Haslemere Great War Centenary project.

If you have anything to share on any of these topics, please contact info@haslemere.com or leave a message for The Haslemere Society at The Museum.

Haslemere Heritage: Suffragettes in Haslemere

February 2018 marks the anniversary of women being given the right to vote in general elections in the United Kingdom for the first time, a significant milestone that is receiving much press coverage at the present time.

With its influential community of intellectuals, it is little surprise to learn that Haslemere had its own National Union of Women's Suffrage Society (NUWSS), and, in an informative blog, (<http://peasant-arts.blogspot.co.uk/2018/01/womens-suffrage-in-haslemere-1908-1913.html?m=1>) Society member Catherine Eyre shares something of its history, including a picture of a march through the High Street in 1908 which is reproduced below. The record also includes details of a bomb planted at Haslemere railway station!!



NUWSS march, Haslemere High Street c.1908
reproduced courtesy of Haslemere Educational Museum

It is also noteworthy that the first secretary of the NUWSS was the wife of [William Cecil Marshall](#), to whom one of the Society's blue plaques is dedicated

Civic Voice



Civic Voice identifies itself as:

“the national charity for the civic movement in England. We make places more attractive, enjoyable and distinctive. We promote civic pride.”

As a Society, we are members of Civic Voice and anyone interested can receive a weekly update on their national activities. They have recently launched “The Big Conservation Conversation” under the leadership of Laura Sandys, daughter of Duncan Sandys who originally founded The Civic Trust movement. They also make representations in Parliament to have their voice heard there.

The Civic Voice website has just been relaunched, along with the Civic Voice Design awards Scheme, which is worth viewing on www.civicdesignawards.com.

The National President, Griff Rhys Jones says “The Civic Design Awards are a wonderful opportunity for local communities up and down the country to nominate local buildings and designers for recognition. These awards show that people **are** willing to welcome the new developments, which we do need, when they have been properly consulted and involved, and where the quality of design and materials has been of the highest standard.” This of course is also the view of the Haslemere Society.

Another advantage of our membership for you is that you may apply for a free National Trust single day pass to any of their properties, which is transferable, by sending a stamped addressed envelope to their headquarters at - Civic Voice, The Coffin Works, 13-15 Fleet Street, Jewellery Quarter, Birmingham B3 1JP. Details can be found at <http://www.civicvoice.org.uk/about/partners/the-national-trust/> and you will need to state that you are a member of The Haslemere Society

Local societies

In this section, we profile other local societies which may be of interest to members

Haslemere Gardening Society

Contributed by Roger Smith, Secretary of The Society



The Haslemere Gardening Society was formed in 1947 for the purpose of promoting the cultivation and appreciation of gardens. Today the Society still lives by these principles.

The Society is affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society and offers some very interesting benefits throughout the year to members. It draws members from Haslemere and the surrounding villages. Some of us have large gardens, some small and one or two have no garden at all.

We are a friendly group who delight in sharing and furthering our knowledge, hearing about the gardening experiences of others and visiting the many lovely places found by the intrepid members of our committee. Many of our members are very experienced amateur gardeners who are willing to share their knowledge with new members.

Our social events include a coffee morning and plant sale in the Summer and a Winter Dinner.

Three full day outings are organised annually during the summer months to a variety of interesting gardens and nurseries across southern England, including some of the lesser known gardens and those affiliated to the NGS scheme.

The Society arranges lectures covering a broad spectrum of horticultural subjects throughout the autumn and winter. Six lectures are given annually by guest lecturers. The standard of speakers is high; some of our speakers such as Christine Walkden and Chris Beardshaw are known nationally. The lectures start at 7.45pm and are followed by tea and coffee at the Catholic Church Hall in Weydown Road.

New members are always welcome and we would encourage everyone who wants to learn new gardening skills, how to grow vegetables for the family or fill any size garden with colour and scent all year round, to come to one of our informal lectures and talk to us about what we do and meet some like-minded people. Membership is open to residents of Haslemere and the surrounding district. More details are available on our web site and you can join online: www.haslemere-gardening-society.co.uk or email: secretary.hgs@btinternet.com

Roger Smith

Haslemere Natural History Society – a Love of Wild Things

Contributed by Judith Kusel

Wild flowers, birds, butterflies and other insects, small mammals and reptiles – do you know what's on your doorstep?

We live in one of the most beautiful parts of England, with access to a huge range of habitats. The surrounding woodland, heaths and meadows are home to an exceptional number of wild creatures and plants. And not far away we have the Weald, surrounded by the North and South Downs, and access to the south coast. We are all so busy that we don't always notice the wonderful variety of wildlife around us, which can be appreciated by knowing where to look; this is where the society can help.



We organise field meetings throughout the year, led by friendly specialists. Our birdwatching rambles are always popular, particularly in winter when there is little other wildlife to be seen. Venues include local woodland and heath for birdsong, or Chichester Harbour for seabirds and waders. Spring sees the beginning of walks on local heaths or the North or South Downs, when we will be visiting the rich variety of plants and wildlife in local habitats. There will be a bat-watching evening and, in the autumn, a popular fungus foray. Guests are very welcome at these and at indoor meetings – with a request for a donation of £4.

Several talks are organised by the Society, jointly with Haslemere Museum, on Saturday afternoons during the winter. Expert speakers provide lively and colourfully-illustrated talks on wildlife or environmental themes from all over the world. At these meetings, members are encouraged to describe any particularly interesting wildlife events they have seen.

There are occasional opportunities to contribute to surveys of local areas to help local or national conservation bodies.

For a subscription of £12 a year (£18 for joint or family memberships), members can receive two attractive Newsletters, an Annual Report summarising the activities of the past year, calendars of Winter Field Meetings, talks at Haslemere Museum and a Summer Field Meetings programme. There is a website which is updated frequently with local sightings, HNHS news, links to other useful websites and a gallery of stunning photographs as well as a 'Stop Press' page. An Annual General Meeting gives members the opportunity to contribute to the workings of the Society.

The Society celebrated its 125th anniversary in 2013. In 1888, a small band of enthusiastic naturalists held their first "Microscope Class". In 1889, it became the Haslemere Microscope and Natural History Society and had a succession of eminent Presidents (its second being Jonathan Hutchinson, founder of the Museum; it has had close ties with the Museum ever since).

Further information and an application form for membership are available at: www.haslemerenaturalhistorysociety.org.uk email: info@haslemerenaturalhistorysociety.org.uk.

Happenings in Haslemere: Society forthcoming events

Spring Meeting

Friday 20th April 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Haslemere Hall GU27 2AS

Our speaker will be Mr Kenneth Bare, vice chairman of the Surrey Hills Society, who will talk about what makes the Surrey Hills special, and the reason for the existence of the Surrey Hills Society. This will be accompanied by a powerpoint presentation. As the Surrey Hills Society is working to raise its profile in our part of the county, our invitation is of significant value to them and promises to be really interesting for our members. The talk will be followed by wine and canapes as usual, as part of your membership subscription.

Summer Party

Friday 29th June from 6pm to 8pm at the Haslemere Educational Museum, High Street, Haslemere GU27 2LA.

This is an opportunity to meet other members and their guests with drinks and canapes in the lovely Museum Garden. We try to find unusual venues every other year and in the past we have held this annual event at Undershaw, Shottermill Hall and St Christopher's Church. This is a ticketed event costing £12.00 per person. Payment may either be made online or via our treasurer Mr Brian Deller c/o the Haslemere Educational Museum, High Street, Haslemere GU27 2LA

Annual General Meeting

Friday 16th November at 7.30 pm in Haslemere Hall GU27 2AS.

Recently this has been followed by a few words from our Surrey County Councillor and this year we hope that our Town Mayor will also give us an update on local matters. The talk which follows will be given by Chris Harrison based on extensive research by his wife, Shirley Harrison, into the lives of those named on our town war memorial. Again, this will be followed by an opportunity to socialise with fellow members, including wine and canapes as part of your annual subscription.

We are gathering together a group of members who will form a team to help with the planning and organising of these events in the future. Any suggestions which you may have about events, particularly accompanied by offers of help will be most welcome. Unfortunately, Gilly Smith, our usual caterer, is unable to provide the canapes for our next two events so we shall be looking for assistance with these.

Jane Stopford

Other upcoming events in Haslemere

In this section, we feature some of the events and activities that are coming up in the town that may be of interest to members. The list is not intended to be exhaustive.

Conan Doyle Events

7th March at 7.30pm: Prof. Neil McCaw, University of Winchester - a talk at Undershaw on "Superhero Sherlock Homes"

5th - 26th May an exhibition about Conan Doyle at Haslemere Educational Museum

25th - 27th May a weekend celebration of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Further details available from www.steppingstones.org.uk

Other events at The Haslemere Museum

Exhibitions:

Modern Beauty - Richard Adams A visual love letter from the artist to the spaces and buildings around us	Saturday 10 March - Saturday 24 March
Face To Face An exhibition of portraits by Jo Shepherd celebrating the lives of people with profound and multiple disabilities, aimed at changing perceptions and breaking down barriers	Saturday 10 March- Saturday 31 March
Bryan Ceney The eclectic and vibrant artwork of Bryan Ceney	Saturday 12 May - Saturday 2 June
Lest We Forget A commemorative exhibition to mark the centenary of the end of the Great War	Saturday 2 June - Wednesday 20 June
A Summer Exhibition Celebrating beautiful hand-crafted ceramics	Saturday 9 June - Friday 22 June

At The Georgian Hotel

Special Sunday lunch for Mother's Day	11 March
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Charter Fair

The Charter Fair in the town centre is on 7 May.

Happenings in Haslemere

And finally. Events we hope won't happen, but fear might be!!

