



Civic Society of St Ives

Annual Report 2017

THE CIVIC SOCIETY OF ST IVES

Our Legacy Statement:

“That future generations will be able to easily recognise the historic character and heritage of our Town despite the inevitable changes that happen down the years .”

The Civic Society of St Ives was formed in 1968 to fight the proposed plans to route the St Ives Bypass down Ramsey Road, across The Waits, Holt Island and Hemingford Meadow.

The siting of the St Ives Bypass today is a result of our early campaigns.

The Society continues to care for the beauty and character of the town, as well as working to stimulate public interest in civic matters and to provide an information service for those who wish to know more about the town’s history and development, and of the surrounding area.

The Civic Society of St Ives is a registered Charity, registration number 257286.

The Civic Society’s website can be found at:

www.stivescivic.org.uk

The society is a member of:

The Campaign to Protect Rural England

www.cpre.org.uk

and

The Cambridge Antiquarian Society

www.camantsoc.org

CONTENTS

| | |
|---|----|
| The Civic Society of St Ives - Its Aims | 2 |
| Chairman's Report | 4 |
| Treasurer's Report | 8 |
| Annual Accounts as at 30th April 2017 | 9 |
| Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting - 2016 | 12 |
| Annual General Meeting 2017 - Agenda | 17 |
| Proposed Changes to the Constitution | 18 |
| Summary of Talks 2016 - 2017 | 20 |
| Programme of Talks 2017 - 2018 | 26 |
| St Ives 1968 to 2018 to 2068 | 28 |
| No. 37 The Broadway, St Ives | 53 |
| Edward Walker (see on front cover) | 56 |

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

First of all I want to thank **Peter Baker** for the years he served on the committee and as our Chairman, as I've written before, 'We owe Peter a big debt of gratitude for his work over the years on behalf of the Civic Society'.

Pat Allen, who continued as acting secretary after he resigned as Secretary, sadly died on 30th August 2016. Pat was well known in the town and attended many Town Council meetings on our behalf. He reviewed planning applications until shortly before his final illness, again we owe Pat a big debt of gratitude for his work on our behalf.

Over the year two committee members have resigned for personal reasons, many thanks to both Margaret King and David Knights for the time they committed to the society. Besides myself, our committee now consists of Peter Whatnell, Vice Chairman; Dr Tim Reed, Secretary; Basil Belcher, Treasurer; Helen Eveleigh, Membership; Jane Amaral; Peter Jackson; Peter Newbold; Barbara Richmond and Peggy Seamark.

My thanks to the committee for the extra tasks they undertake, often unremarked the tasks keep the society running. We are also aided in our work by people who give their time willingly, their assistance is very much appreciated, they are:

Brian Richmond - Webmaster and Annual Report compiler

Dianne McGoff - Accounts examiner

The Free Church Staff

John Souter - Preparation of a plan showing the old blue street signs in St Ives

During the year Mike Davison, note taker at our monthly meetings, resigned; many thanks to him for his reports. If you feel you would like to take the notes and write up the talks for the annual report please contact me, there are eight meetings a year and we pay a small remuneration for each month's notes.

One of the first topics the committee considered was our reviewing of and commenting on planning applications. Given our limited resources, and lack of a planning professional to advise us we have settled on the following

"Whilst we have limited resources we will continue to place more emphasis on the conservation area but we will also comment on other applications within the Town Council's area, where we see good reason to. Outside of the Town Council's area we will comment when the development will impact on St Ives."

We receive advance notice of the Town Council's planning meetings and now comment in advance so the Clerk has a record of our comments, but we still have to attend and speak during the Public Consultation period at the commencement of the meeting.

Up to the end of July we have looked at 120 odd applications and commented to the Town Council on 20 applications. One or other of Jane Amaral, Peter Whatnell or I try to attend and comment. I have to say that I'm impressed by the care the Planning committee take in examining the applications, our comments are considered carefully and often incorporated into their comments to the District Council.

Notable applications have included Morrisons revised smaller store and incorporating a separate non-food retailer unit, this is on the site adjacent to the Marsh Harrier. The archeological survey has been completed and work on site commenced in June, interestingly without any fanfare. On the opposite side of Harrison Way an application has been approved for a fast food centre. Initial plans showed access and exit onto Needingworth Road. The formal planning application showed the entrance from Needingworth Road and the exit onto northbound Harrison Way. This application, now approved, will further overload the short stretch of Needingworth Road between the two roundabouts.

A new proposal to redevelop the football ground, off Westwood Road, was made last December, this is still 'in progress'. In the chairman's report of 2005 the then new chairman, Barbara Richmond, gave the reason why she had earlier joined the society, *"there was talk of building on the town's football field"*. She closed her report with *"Oh, by the way, the football ground still hasn't been built on - so far."*

Pre-application presentations have been made to the Town Council for Gifford's Farm, land north of Hill Rise and Marley Way, the garage site on London Road and in late June Aldi stores made a presentation on developing a store off Stocks Bridge Way. That's the road north of the Needingworth Road / Harrison Way roundabout. In connection with the Gifford's Farm application I have suggested that Stocks Bridge Way should be extended to form an eastern bypass, joining Somersham Road at Nuffield Road, or preferably at the Marley Road roundabout. This would go some way to relieve the Somersham Road / Needingworth Road roundabout but is hardly a solution for the traffic problems we are now experiencing, which I am sure are now as bad as before the bypass was completed.

Work continues on the development of the Huntingdon Local Plan to 2036, there is currently a consultation on this. One significant change is that the plan now discounts any development of the Wyton Airfield site: because there

is no money for the infrastructure required off the site, i.e. a road link to the A14. Meanwhile, small developments continue. Whilst developers contribute to local infrastructure costs, there is no planning for the major infrastructure needed as a result of all the small developments.

Some actual developments are: the opening of Wetherspoon's pub the Swan and Angel, the sale and very recent reopening after a major refurbishment of the Golden Lion Hotel, the closure of Budgens on Sheep Market and its later reopening as a Poundstretcher store. The Surf and Turf restaurant on Bridge Street has closed to be replaced by Zzohanna, an Indian restaurant. After Country Casuals closed, Harrold Opticians moved one shop along Bridge Street, their old shop is now Grape Tree, a health food store. It is very pleasing that shops remain unoccupied for hardly any time at all. This is testament to the appeal and strength of St Ives as a market town.

However, Whippet Coaches have announced that in early September they are to withdraw many services including all their bus routes serving the town, apart from their 'C' route on the busway. It seems that Whippet's losses are considerable. This will make life difficult for residents in the town and villages served by Whippet who rely solely on their buses. At the request of the committee I have written to our local County Councillors, (some of the routes are grant aided by the County Council). The Councillors are very concerned and maybe some solution will be found.

At our meeting in January a collection was held for the Free Church 'Save our Spire' appeal. A total of £55 was collected and more was donated by Gift Aid. Work commenced in July to secure and protect the spire. Over the last weekend of the month the Norris Museum held a series of opening events after an 18 month redevelopment. The changes are substantial, but very sympathetic to the original building. Areas have been opened up to the public and a new extension built. The new museum is a considerable tribute to all involved and to the Lottery Fund for a large portion of the funding.

In February we became aware of a plan by Huntingdon District Council to consider moving part of St Ives' Monday Market into Bridge Street. A review was to be carried out and to report to the Council in June. The intention is to consult on removing the road closures, and the consequent need for staff to control vehicles, thus allowing the reintroduction of Blue Badge parking on Market Hill. At our February open meeting I asked if there was any support for the proposal, there was none. Splitting up of the market would increase the walking distance to cover all stalls. Businesses and residents of Crown Street, Bridge Street, Merryland, Woolpack Lane, Foundry Walk, Bull Lane, Quay Court, The Quay, Free Church Passage, Wellington Street and Birt Lane would potentially be affected. Several of our members live in these roads and would be very severely affected by any restriction of access to Bridge Street.

So far I have not been able to find any report to Council on the review.

For several years now I have been looking at the proposals for the updating of the street lights in the centre of St Ives. Last summer the proposals for the centre of St Ives were published and I'm pleased to say in the spring the lights in The Waits, Crown Street, The Pavement, Market Hill, Merryland and Bridge Street were replaced or converted with new lanterns. Not only have all the existing heritage style black columns either been retained or replaced, one incongruous column, at the corner of Free Church Passage and Market Hill has been replaced by a black one. When I first reported on the proposals there was a lot of uncertainty as to the type of columns to be used, and indeed on the ownership of some of the columns. Now, whilst the ownership of the seven columns in Broadway has been accepted by the County Council, those seven lights remain to be updated with new lanterns.

On a similar theme, last year Peter Baker reported on our success in being awarded £750 by the Goodliff Fund of the Huntingdonshire Local History Society towards the cost of replacing the street light above the Church Yard Gates to All Saints Church. I regret to say that we have had to hold off the public appeal we promised as I am unable to establish the owner of the existing street light. The search goes on.

We again sponsored the Ouse Valley Jazz Band and Angela for FEST's Music on the Waits. This was held in the Methodist Church as the Museum's builders were still occupying the paved area of the Waits. I'm pleased to say it was very well attended.

Next year we plan to celebrate our 50th anniversary. Elsewhere in the report there is the first piece of information on our plans. More to follow.

As always we need to attract new members, otherwise we will contract. To this end in January we prepared a new leaflet summarising the work of the Society, and inserted into it a list of the open meeting talks. The leaflets are distributed in several hotels, the Town Hall, Corn Exchange and the library. If you know of anyone who is interested in the aims of the Society please give them the website address www.stivescivic.org.uk so they can see some aspects of our work and invite them to our open meetings.

You may contact me through the Contact Us page of the website or by email to stives.civic.society@gmail.com , I welcome your feedback.

David Stewart

Chairman.

TREASURER'S REPORT 2016 - 2017

The year's accounts have been independently examined and approved. The Examiner's report and accounts summary follow this report.

Receipt and expenditure for the year gives a surplus of £2,559 which, when the £66 interest from the deposit account is added, results in an overall surplus of £2,625. This is significantly greater than last year's surplus due to the receipt of donations and a Goodliff Fund grant.

We received generous donations during the year from P Simpson, R Burn-Murdoch and D Evans.

We again made a £350 grant to the FESSt in support of Music on the Waits.

Gift Aid contributed £334 this year and remains an essential part of our income.

Interest on our deposit account produced £66 this year, almost one third less than last year on the same value. The interest rate was reduced to 0.5%.

Annual Subscriptions are due in September and will remain at the current level of £7 for single membership and £12 for household membership. Payment can be made at meetings and by standing order. Standing Orders are preferred and forms for this are available at any meeting from Helen Eveleigh or myself.

We hold reserves for future expenditure and have £2014 committed to specific projects, principally the Slepe Hall Playing Field storyboard and the Church Gate Light.

Basil Belcher

Treasurer

Civic Society of St Ives Statement of Income & Expenditure
as at 30th April 2017

| Income | | | Expenditure | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| | Year to | Year | | Year to | Year |
| | 30-04-17 | 2016 | | 30-04-17 | 2016 |
| | £ | £ | | £ | £ |
| Subscriptions/Donations | 2,443 | 2,602 | Hall Hire | 181 | 392 |
| Slepe Hall Donations | | | Annual Report | 698 | 978 |
| Visitors | 56 | 39 | Speakers | 285 | 389 |
| Memorial Fund | | | Memorial Fund | | |
| Social Evenings | 210 | 0 | Social Evenings | 189 | |
| Raffle | 210 | 0 | Raffle | 189 | 0 |
| Interest | | | Insurance | 217 | 216 |
| Gift Aid | 334 | 338 | Antiquarian Soc Subs | 20 | 20 |
| Heritage Weekend | | 140 | CPRE Subs | 36 | 36 |
| Trips | | 0 | Trips | | |
| Bequests | | 0 | Donations/Gifts | 350 | 350 |
| Deposit Acc Transfer | | | Deposit Acc Transfer | | |
| | | | Administration | 183 | 261 |
| Donations | 1,047 | 127 | Postage | 48 | 48 |
| | | | Phone | | |
| | | | Travel | | |
| | | | Web Site | 75 | 306 |
| | | | Heritage Weekend | | 100 |
| Remembrance Collection | | 0 | Remembrance Collection | | 110 |
| Church Light | 750 | | | | 58 |
| | 4,840 | 3,246 | | 2,281 | 2,958 |
| Balances from 30 April 2016 | | | Balances as at 30th April 2017 | | |
| Current account | 4,194 | | Current account | 6,572 | |
| Deposit Account | 9,963 | | Deposit Account | 10,029 | |
| Total | 14,157 | | Total | 16,601 | |
| Plus | | | | | |
| Surplus for year | 2,559 | | add | | |
| Dep. Ac. Transfer + Interest | 66 | | Receipts after Period end | 0 | |
| Total | 16,783 | | less | | |
| less | | | Cheques yet to be | | |
| 2016 Payments | 271 | | presented | 90 | |
| £ 16,511 | | | £ 16,511 | | |

Report to the Trustees & Members of The Civic Society of St Ives, Charity No 257286, on the Accounts for the year ended 30th April 2017 which are set out on the attached.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- To follow procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - a. To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act

- b. To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
- (2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:  Date: 20th June 2017

Name Dianne McGoff BSc (Open)
4 Seathwaite, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, PE29 6NY

MINUTES OF THE 48th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held on 21st October 2016, at the Free Church, St Ives.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies had been received from M King, T Norris & J McKinniet and two others.

2. MINUTES OF THE 47th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

The Chairman advised the minutes have been published in the Annual Report.

The Chairman noted an error in the minutes: £50,000, not £40,000 had been proposed by HDC for works on the Octagon. He then asked for adoption as a true record. This was accepted by a show of hands.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Mr I Dobson noted that the report from the Chair on p12 had stated that in a statement from HDC read out by the Chair that "*Purely commercial uses are no longer being pursued, and that the District Councillors for St Ives are now working with interested parties community groups to explore options for the future*" was incorrect, and the reference to a peppercorn rent was without foundation; the building was now up for commercial rental, and groups offering to renovate work with HDC on the Octagon, such as Save The Octagon, had been ignored.

The Chairman referred Mr Dobson to his report on p4 and the need for it to be self-financing. Mr Dobson wondered if the Chair had been deliberately misled. The Chairman noted that circumstances change.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

J D Wetherspoon: The tender process is apparently concluding, and work is due to start soon.

Town Centre Heritage Lighting: This had been a long, slow, process, stumbling towards conclusion, and had been, and continued to be, monitored by the Society.

Churchyard Lamp: The Society's project to replace the churchyard lamp with one more in keeping with its surroundings had progressed. The Society had been awarded a grant of £750 towards the £1500 needed for the project. An Appeals Leaflet was in the final stages of preparation.

Honorary Positions: The Chairman noted that the Committee had suggested two amendments to the Society's Constitution:

A) Honorary Vice Presidents

B) Period of Office for Officers

[A] Honorary Vice Presidents: individual members deserving of recognition for outstanding contributions.

It was proposed to amend Para 7.1.B of the constitution, changing *Vice President* to *Vice Presidents*, and to add a new Para 7.4:

“Honorary positions of Vice President may be awarded to those that have been, or are, significant benefactors of the Civic Society of St Ives. The names and contribution of potential honorary vice presidents will be discussed by the committee, and the Honorary President invited to comment. If all are agreed, then the names and their contributions will be presented to the next AGM for a vote by members present. Normally, the duration of the Honorary post will be for life, but the occupants may exercise their right to retire or stand down”

It was noted that the Society’s current Honorary President, Bob Burn-Murdoch had assented to this proposal.

The formal adoption of the amendment was proposed by J Smoothy and seconded by B King. It was passed by a majority.

[B] Period of Office for Officers

It has been suggested that the Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary all have a duration of 3 years in the first instance, after which (or earlier, at the office holder’s resignation) they should be free to stand down. If, after 3 years, the post holders wished to continue, they would need re-election at the AGM. This would require alteration to Para 6.2 of the Constitution.

“The 4 officers may hold their posts for 3 years, after which they will be free to stand down, unless they wish to continue: having gained elected approval at the appropriate AGM”

The amendment was proposed by P Faupel and seconded by B King, but amended from the floor, aware of the risk of all 4 leaving at once, with the suggestion that “posts for 3 years, rotated on a phased basis”. It was agreed that the Committee would provide a definitive set of wording for agreement, and report back to the Society.

Old Bridge Chapel: The Chairman noted that he had been informally approached by the applicant for a licence to operate a bar in the Chapel of St Leger, after the application had been supported by the Chapel’s owners: Cambs County Council. The approach was to seek the views of the Committee. Led by the Chairman, the Committee looked at the application in terms of the Society’s Constitutional remit, and CCC’s support. The Committee had

expressed concerns on road safety, hygiene, noise, water and power. These responses were fed back to the applicant prior to his official application. The involvement was informal, and the Society's response was in line with its Constitution's aims and objectives.

Other issues: The Society had received a warm letter of appreciation for the work and efforts put in by the Society and its Committee to help safeguard the town's heritage.

The Committee: The Chairman asked the Committee to stand in acknowledgement of their work.

In addition, the Chairman put on record the inputs by the late Pat Allan. Everyone was asked to stand as a mark of appreciation for Pat Allan.

Also thanked were:

Brian Richmond (Webmaster and Annual report compiler)

Mike Davidson (Note taker at our monthly meetings)

Dianne McGoff (Accounts examiner)

The Free Church Staff

All Annual Report Distributors

The Chairman deferred questions on his report until after the reading of the Treasurer's Report and the election of Officers and Committee.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer's Report had been published in the Annual Report.

There was a query over the rise of approximately 1/3 in insurance costs. In response, it was noted that a trawl of insurance quotes indicated that the current insurers were competitive.

The possibility of Section 106 monies noted in the previous year's report was raised. This was still uncertain, and depended on Morrisons progressing the potential development.

The adoption of the Accounts was proposed by C Saunderson, and seconded by J Faupel. It was accepted on majority.

6. ELCTION OF COMMITTEE AND OFFICERS

Individual posts were proposed and seconded: as there were candidates for each. It was noted that the Constitution allowed for both a Chair and Vice Chair to be elected:

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Chair: David Stewart | Proposed B King | Seconded N Dibben |
| Vice Chair: Peter Whatnell | Proposed C Reed | Seconded I Jackson |
| Secretary: Tim Reed | Proposed N Dibben | Seconded I Dobson |
| Treasurer: Basil Belcher | Proposed C.Saunderson | Seconded J Costley |

The remainder of the Committee was proposed for election en bloc. Proposed by C Saunderson Seconded J Costley.

All were accepted by majority:

Margaret King, Barbara Richmond, Jane Amaral, David Knights, Peter Newbould and Peggy Seamark.

7. APPOINTMENT OF ACCOUNTS EXAMINER

It was recommended that Dianne McGoff be reappointed to this role. Proposed by C Saunderson Seconded by P Faupel.

8. MATTERS ARISING:

Ian Jackson noted a long association with the Society: his father had been a founding member. Because of this, he was concerned about the attitude of the Committee to the Chapel bar application, especially the lack of any active role in opposing the proposal. The retiring Chairman noted that there had been no formal proposal, and that the Committee had acted in line with its remit, to which Mr Jackson expressed concern that the Society had not been encouraged to give its view. He suggested that perhaps the new committee might be encouraged to revisit the vision and objectives with a fresh eye.

N Dibben noted that the Society should be aware of planned cuts to Whippet Bus services, and an application for a drive-through Macdonald’s restaurant.

B Flanagan reiterated Mr Jackson’s concerns, and that the Society had mis-read public perception, and that the risk of surrendering the Chapel to a pub was inappropriate.

Mr Dobson supported the inputs of Ms Flanagan and Mr Jackson, noting that the effective history of the Civic Society was at risk. He reaffirmed the need for the new Committee to reappraise the terms of the Constitution and its effective use, and to regain the spirit of earlier committees.

The retiring Chairman read out the Constitution as it currently stands, noting that the Society should not make moral judgements.

There being no further business, the retiring Chairman stood down, and the formal meeting was closed.

9. APPRECIATION.

The new Chairman, David Stewart, read out a short appreciation of the work of the retired Chairman.

He noted Peter Baker's work on various projects, including the listing of the war memorial, and the retention of both it and the Cromwell memorial in their rightful places.

He proposed a vote of thanks for Peter's many seen, and unseen, inputs over the years.

As there was no further business, the meeting was closed.

CIVIC SOCIETY of ST. IVES
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
20th October 2017
AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of the 48th Annual General Meeting.
3. Matters arising from the minutes.
4. Chairman's Report.
5. Matters arising from the Chairman's Report.
6. Treasurer's Report and to accept the Accounts for the year to 30 April 2017.
7. Resolutions.
8. Election of Officers and Committee.
9. Any Other Business, including:
 - a. Appointment of an accounts examiner for 2017-2018

Resolutions:

Accounts Examiner: To appoint Ms. Dianne McGoff, BSc, ACIB as independent accounts examiner until the conclusion of the 2018 Annual General Meeting.

Proposed changes to the Constitution. See pages 18 and 19.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION

Note: In the proposed changes below: *Words or Letters in italics* are to be deleted and Words or Letters underlined are to be inserted.

1. At our 2016 AGM there was a member request that we enact a change to the constitution that would limit the term of a committee member to three years. Shown below is the proposed wording that would accomplish this.

However, after some discussion, the committee has concluded that this would serve no practical purpose. The problem that we have is getting enough people to join the committee in the first place. Two have resigned this year.

It is true that some committee members have been serving for a number of years but this provides continuity and good institutional knowledge. The committee does not believe that the current protocol has created any weakness in oversight of fiduciary responsibility.

Therefore, rather than enact an unnecessary constitutional change.

The committee recommends that you vote AGAINST this amendment.

From:

8.3. The Executive Committee consist of:

a) The officers who shall be appointed by members at an AGM to hold office from the end of the AGM until the next AGM and shall be eligible for re-election at the AGM.

b) Co-opted members

Renumber para b) to para c)

Insert new para b)

To:

8.3. The Executive Committee consists of:

a) The officers who shall be appointed by members at an AGM to hold office from the end of the AGM until the next AGM for a period of three years and shall be eligible for re-election.

b) Elected Executive Committee members who shall be appointed by members at an AGM to hold office from the end of the AGM for a period of three years and shall be eligible for re-election.

c) Co-opted membership.

2. We currently have 10 people working on the Committee but the Constitution only allows for 9. It is proposed to increase the maximum committee members permitted under the constitution by enacting the following constitution change:

The committee recommends that you vote FOR this amendment.

From:

8.2. The Executive Committee when complete consists of at least 5 and not more than 9 individuals, all of whom must be members.

To:

8.2. The Executive Committee when complete consists of at least 5 and not more than 9 12 individuals, all of whom must be members.

3. In the course of reviewing the constitution it became apparent that there are several inconsistencies in wording regarding the terms, "Committee" and "Executive Committee". To regularise this, the committee is proposing a number of minor housekeeping changes, which are shown below.

The committee recommends that you vote FOR this amendment.

From:

5.7

d) accept the retirement of the elected Executive Committee members and officers who are retired or wish to retire from the Committee.

To:

5.7

d) accept the retirement of the Elected Executive Committee members and Officers who are retired or wish to retire from the Executive Committee.

From:

5.7

e) elect or re-elect Elected Committee members to fill the vacancies arising

To:

5.7

e) elect or re-elect Elected Executive Committee members to fill the vacancies arising

From:

8.1. The Society and its property shall be managed and administered by a committee comprising the officers, elected Executive Committee members and Co-opted Executive Committee members elected in accordance with this constitution. The Officers, Elected Executive Committee Members and Co-opted Executive Committee Members shall be the Charity Trustees of the Society and in this Constitution are together called the Executive Committee.

To:

8.1. The Society and its property shall be managed and administered by an Executive Committee comprising the Officers, elected Executive Committee members and Co-opted Executive Committee members elected in accordance with this constitution. The Officers, Elected Executive Committee Members and Co-opted Executive Committee Members shall be the Charity Trustees of the Society and in this Constitution are together called the Executive Committee.

From:

8.11

c) is absent from 4 consecutive meetings of the Executive Committee and is asked by a majority of the other committee members to resign.

To:

8.11

c) is absent from 4 consecutive meetings of the Executive Committee and is asked by a majority of the other Executive Committee members to resign.

SUMMARY OF TALKS 2016—2017

The new programme began on 16th September with a talk by Victoria Bennett on the many National Trust properties to be found in East Anglia.

NATIONAL TRUST PROPERTIES OF EAST ANGLIA

The first talk of the new season offered an overview of just some of the rich and varied inventory of National Trust properties in our region.

The first port of call was Essex, and specifically Paycocke's House in Coggeshall. John Paycocke, son of a wealthy family whose fortune came from the wool trade, built this splendid house in around 1500, reputedly as a wedding present for his son. Its architectural importance lies in the elaborate internal panelling and carving and its charm is complemented by a lovely cottage garden. It was one of the earliest properties acquired by the Trust, in 1924.



Paycocke's House, a fine example of late Tudor domestic architecture

Hatfield Forest, the last surviving royal hunting forest, is a fine example of the Trust's natural landscapes, a mixture of woods and tree-dotted plains which has never been ploughed or chemically fertilised. It has been managed traditionally, by coppicing and pollarding, since the 12th century. There is a slight connection to our area because, whilst retaining the hunting rights, Henry III gave the land and the trees in 1238 to Isobel of Huntingdon. It is an ecological treasure trove, a haven for wildlife and many varieties of native tree.

A tour of Essex would not be complete without a visit to Flatford Mill. The Trust does not own the Mill, where John Constable's father was the miller, but

it does manage Willy Lott's cottage and Bridge Cottage. Visitors can stand on the very spot from which Constable painted *The Haywain*, and the only difference is that the wagon and horses are no longer to be seen!

The gem of Suffolk, and arguably of the whole region, is Ickworth, built in 1795 by Frederick Hervey, 4th Earl of Bristol and Bishop of Derry, to house his art collection acquired during extensive travels in Europe. Unfortunately the collection was confiscated in Italy by Napoleon before it could be sent back to England, and the Earl never lived in his magnificent house, but later generations of the Hervey family developed the estate into one of the grandest in the country. Highlights are the Italianate garden, the high-ceilinged Regency reception rooms, the Pompeii Room based on a real 1st century discovery in Rome, a priceless collection of Huguenot silverware and many paintings, including exquisite portrait miniatures. Visitors can also get a flavour of life below stairs in the basement, restored to portray life in the early 20th century (a la *Downton Abbey!*). Ickworth park is a largely natural landscape, but a lovely walled garden has been restored and planted to a design outlined in a recently discovered contemporary notebook

The Theatre Royal in Bury St Edmunds is the third oldest in the UK and the only surviving Regency theatre, having opened in 1819.



The intimate auditorium of the Theatre Royal

It was built to offer culture (plays and music) to the local gentry and increasingly affluent and aspiring middle classes during the 6 week "season" after the harvest had been gathered. Sadly, with the arrival of the railway local people could travel to the much more extensive delights of London and the Theatre

Royal struggled to compete. It closed in 1925 and suffered the ignominy of becoming a brewery store, but happily the Trust has restored it to what its earliest patrons would have experienced and it is once more at the cultural heart of Bury.

Melford Hall is an early 16th century manor house built by an abbot of St Edmundsbury and granted to Sir William Cordell after the dissolution of the monasteries. Externally it retains much of the original Tudor architecture but its interior was modified to include a Rococo drawing room and a library in the Greek revival style. In 1786 the house was sold to John Parker, and his descendants, the Hyde Parkers, live there to this day. Several generations of Hyde Parkers had distinguished naval careers, and the house contains many pictures and memorabilia of life at sea.

In complete contrast to the traditional “stately home” Orford Ness is a very fine example of a natural spit formed over thousands of years by the process of longshore drift. The National trust now owns 1500 acres of the Ness, an evocative mixture of shingle banks and strange concrete structures and charmless buildings abandoned after almost 100 years of occupation by the military. The site was secret for many years because of its work on armaments and radar, and particularly at the height of the Cold War on the development of nuclear weapons.



A “Pagoda” built to assemble nuclear weapon detonators squatting incongruously on the natural shingle dunes, Orford Ness lighthouse in the background

Although some buildings are being restored to allow public access and to tell the story, most of the MOD site is left to nature; the many nesting birds are oblivious to the relics of man’s intervention.

Sutton Hoo was also highlighted as a site of great national importance managed by the Trust. As the Society had a most informative talk on this in 2015, suffice it to say that the exhibition hall now contains a recreation of the main ship burial – worth a repeat visit.

Heading westwards to Cambridgeshire, the first port of call was Wimpole Hall, begun in 1640 by the Chicheley family and held by their descendants for 250 years. It then passed through several hands before being bequeathed to the National Trust in 1976. It encompasses contrasting styles of baroque and neo-classical, the latter owing much to the famous architect Sir John Soane. The library is one of the largest private collections in the country, and a dining



Wimpole Hall and park in the late 18th century.

room was especially constructed for a visit by Victoria and Albert in 1842. The chapel was painted in trompe l'oeil style by Sir James Thornhill, who is perhaps best known for the magnificent interior decoration of the Painted Chapel at Greenwich; it was his last major commission.

The extensive parkland was created and altered by successive owners, but most of what can now be seen is the work of Capability Brown, and later Sir

Humphrey Repton. The large Home Farm was re-modelled by Soane to embody the very latest ideas in agricultural production.

Anglesey Abbey was converted to a country house from the original priory on the site in around 1600. The only notable later owner was Sir George Downing, founder of Downing College Cambridge, and the house became rather dilapidated in the late 19th century. It was rescued in 1926 by a wealthy American Huttleston Broughton who, as Lord Fairhaven, lived in the house and restored and furnished it to look as it might have been in the 17th century. It also has a magnificent library; the bookcases are made of elm from the old Waterloo Bridge in London and Fairhaven even had books re-bound to make them look old! The house contains art, furniture, porcelain and clocks of the highest quality. The gardens are particularly renowned for their specimen trees and statuary.

Wicken Fen is one of the UK's oldest nature reserves and the first to be managed by the National Trust, in 1899. It is one of a very few surviving areas of fenland, but the landscape owes its appearance to active intervention by man, originally for farming and fishing and now for the preservation of flora and fauna. Wicken Lode once allowed access to the sea at Kings Lynn, but today the surrounding peat has shrunk so much thanks to intensive agriculture that water has to be pumped into the Fen to maintain the wetlands.

The last destination in Cambridgeshire was Peckover House in Wisbech, a fine example of a Georgian merchant's home built in 1722 on the North Brink, overlooking the River Nene. It has a rare example of a Victorian town garden and an orangery with a 300 year old orange tree.

The overview of the National Trust's east region concluded in Norfolk. Oxburgh Hall is currently closed to the public but is a well-preserved example of a 15th century defensible manor house. Its most notable treasure is the Oxburgh Hangings, needlework on silk sewn by Mary Queen of Scots whilst in captivity, and Bess of Hardwicke. Felbrigg Hall dates from 1620 and was extended in early Georgian style. It is noted for its walled garden, restored and again highly productive. Blickling Hall also dates from the early 17th century and incorporates an earlier building owned by the Boleyn family. It is particularly renowned for lovely Jacobean ceilings, timber panelling and fireplaces. Emphasising the variety of the Trust's properties, the last two mentioned were landscapes.

Sheringham Park was created by Repton in the 19th century and contains many magnificent trees and shrubs, particularly rhododendrons and azaleas.



Blakeney Point—a magnificent coastal feature

Blakeney Point is a complete contrast to the planned landscape - a magnificent coastal feature beloved by geographers. The shoreline of marsh, muddy creeks and shingle banks is renowned for its seabirds and seals, accessible only by boat or a long walk from Cley beach – a truly wild and unspoilt place to end our tour.

OPEN MEETINGS 2017 – 2018

All monthly talks are held in the Free Church, St Ives at 7.30 pm.
Non-members are always welcome and a donation of £2 is requested to help cover costs.

- 15th September 2017 Jed Jaggard: The Roman Soldier from Invasion to Withdrawal.
- 20th October 2017 **Annual General Meeting.**
Followed by David Stewart: HDC's Local Plan to 2036,
- 17th November 2017 Annie James: Bound for Botany Bay: prisoners (including local ones) sent to Australia.
- 19th January 2018 Simon Dew: The History of Dew's Coaches, Somersham.
- 16th February 2018 Brian White: The Travelling Post Office (TPO).
- 16th March 2018 Liz Davies: Victorian Crime and Punishment.
- 20th April 2018 Richard Carter: A Year from the Hunts Post.
- 18th May 2018 Rodney Tibbs: The River Ouse, a Fenland River.

Please visit our website www.stivescivic.org.uk for programme changes.

ST. IVES

1968 to 2018 to 2068

Looking back it is easy to understand why the Civic Society of St. Ives was formed. Who could sit idly by and allow a relief road (bypass) to be built beside a parish church, across a tranquil island then destroy the serenity and beauty of a riverside country meadow? For new members of the Civic Society, or those new to the area, in 1968 the proposed route for the relief road was from the south end of Ramsey Road at the end of the Waits, across Holt Island and Hemingford Meadow to join London Road. The proposal was a very good reason to join together to prevent such a horror and retain the character of our town.

Looking forward to 2018, we will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Civic Society by reminiscing, having fun and challenging you to look forward to the next 50 years. We don't have a crystal ball but we do have members who love St. Ives and our Legacy Statement is "*That future generations will be able to easily recognise the historic character of our Town, despite the inevitable changes that happen down the years*".

With that in mind, we are inviting you to show us what you think St. Ives will look like in 2068 when Civic Society members will celebrate the 100th anniversary. Describe how St. Ives will look in words, painting, a model in Lego, matchsticks, 3D printed, animation, embroidery, any way you like.

Closing date is 6th September 2018 so no excuse for not enough time! There will be regular reminders so no excuse for forgetting! There is no entry fee or age restriction. Full details will be emailed to members soon after you receive the Annual Report and will be available on the website.

YOUR ST. IVES 2068

Imagine St. Ives in 50 years time.

What will it be like?

Write about it, paint a picture, create a model in any medium e.g. Lego, matchsticks, clay, 3D print, paper. Any way you want to

Will it have the character and charm?

Will we have a Bridge Chapel,
The Meadows, Holt Island,
Warner's Park, Slepe Field, Nobles Field,
Swans, Ducks,
The Thicket?

WHAT WILL IT BE?

The Civic Society of St. Ives is 50 years old in 2018; we know what St. Ives looked like in 1968, we invite you to tell us how it will look, or how you would like it to look in 2068.

You have until 6th September 2018 to create your vision.

Details will be available in September 2017

For further information contact:

Jane Amaral rjr1947@virginmedia.com

David Stewart chairman@stivescivic.org.uk

or go to our website www.stivescivic.org.uk

CIVIC SOCIETY OF ST IVES



Application for Membership

If you would like to join the Civic Society of St Ives, please complete the form below and send it with your annual subscription to:

Civic Society of St Ives
88 Warren Road
St Ives
Cambridgeshire
PE27 5NN

Household Subscription: £12.00 per year

Individual Subscription: £7.00 per year

Please complete and return the attached Standing Order mandate
or
enclose a cheque made payable to **Civic Society of St Ives**

I/We would like to join the Civic Society of St Ives:

Mr/Mrs/Ms _____ First Name(s) _____

Surname _____

Address _____

Post Code _____ Tel. No. _____

E-mail _____

Occupation/ _____

Interests/ _____

Comments _____

After the AGM on the 21st October there was a short talk given by David Stewart, the Chairman of the Civic Society.

THE HERITAGE LIGHTS PROGRAMME, THE CHURCH YARD LAMP, EARLY GAS SUPPLY IN ST IVES AND THE RETORT HOUSE

The Heritage Lights Programme

My previous presentation to you about the County Council's Street Lighting replacement programme, and more particularly its impact on the black painted 'heritage' lights in St Ives, was in November 2014. At that time I was quite gloomy about the outlook. This was because some of the 'Heritage' or more correctly 'Decorative' columns in St Ives had not all been correctly identified in the Council's records, or even recorded as existing in some cases. The Society attended meetings with the Town Council and the County Council's contractor Balfour Beatty, and in time, and no doubt because other communities were also making representations, the replacement of many heritage lights was put on hold. After a further meeting, with different staff, who seemed to understand the problem, a county wide report was produced and money then found by our Councillors to fund the like for like replacement of many more lights across the county.

This work is now going ahead in St Ives, albeit very slowly. The lanterns on four lights in Crown Street and the four lights on The Quay have been replaced. More recently work on the lanterns in Bridge Street has commenced, although the most recently replaced column has again been hit and is again awaiting replacement. Also it seems that the design of the replacement lanterns has changed over the last two years, the bowl is now a shallow dish, rather than a deep bowl.

On the minus side The Waits is still not shown on the record maps, The Broadway is now included but I have not yet seen any drawings for the work.

The Church Yard Gate Lamp

This lamp was listed Grade 2 as part of the listing for the Church Yard Gate in 1972. By 1986, when the gates were removed and refurbished, we know from the record photographs the lamp had been replaced by a sodium fitting, it is still there now. The adjacent box clearly is marked CCC14A, but now the light is not recorded on the County's records. This is the lamp that the Society want to replace with a replica lamp housing a modern fitting.

But when was the original installed? Unfortunately there are few records for the gas company, but I have searched the records of the St Ives Improvement Commissioners, they were established in 1847 and their minute books are in the Huntingdon Archives.

Minutes of their meetings show the Commissioners purchased the gas works in autumn 1849 and additional street lamps ordered. In January 1852 two commissioners were appointed to attend to the removal of lamps near the Church. At the next meeting in February 1852 they reported they considered the removal of lamps near the Church would be inexpedient. The report was adopted. The type of light is not recorded but it may be that the Church Yard Gate gas lamp was installed before 1852.

The Origins of the Gas Supply in St Ives

The Chinese knew about natural gas and used bamboo pipes to distribute it whilst the Romans were still in Britain. But it was William Murdoch, a steam engineer working for Matthew Boulton and James Watt in Birmingham and responsible for their steam engines in Cornwall who first lit his house in Redruth by gas he made in an iron retort. This was in 1792. In 1801 there was a public demonstration of gas lighting in Paris and in 1806 gas lighting was installed in two cotton spinning mills, one of these was by William Murdoch, from Redruth. The following year the first gas street lighting was installed in Pall Mall, London, with gas manufactured in a gas works, and piped to the end user.

In putting together this short history I am indebted to Peggy Seamark, who gave me copies of several of the photos as well as newspaper extracts, Linda Reed of Eaton Socon who is researching the history of Gas in Huntingdonshire and also Mary Carter's book 19th Century St Ives.

After 1807 the next 20 years was the first 'Dash for Gas' as towns and cities realised the benefits of lighting their streets by gas. Of course improvements were introduced, one was the development of storing gas in gas holders in 1824. This allowed for the steady production of gas, rather than meeting demand as it occurred, still a problem today the electricity industry has to cope with. In the dash for Gas St Ives was a bit behind the curve but in 1836 a site on London Road, where the current closed Murketts garage and car showrooms is, became the Gas Works for the St Ives Gas Company. At that time the site was in the parish of Fenstanton. More pertinently it was south of the river so the supply pipe had to cross the New Bridges and the Old Bridge. The owner of the bridge, the Duke of Manchester, refused permission to lay the

pipe in his bridge. A local Parliamentary Act was required to force the Duke to agree and gas production only commenced two years later in 1838. Initially the gas company owned both the works and the street lamps. From the minutes mentioned earlier I infer the early network may only have supplied Bridge Street, Crown Street, The Broadway and Market Hill. The Minutes record that no lamps were lit during the summer season of May to August, and also not for the four nights around each full moon. At other times, lamps were turned off overnight, but I also found a minute from 1860 that the lamps would remain lit on 10th, 11th & 12th October, which would be for the fair.

So the current reduction or turning off the new lighting is nothing new!

The Retort House, London Road

When St Ives gas works ceased production around 1958, Eastern Gas Board did not vacate all the site, their valve compound is still there today. The works used coal, which was heated in horizontal sealed containers, the retorts. The coal gave off gas (mainly hydrogen and carbon monoxide) and coke remained. The gas was piped off to be cleaned (i.e. coal tar was collected), then purified and stored. In time there were four or five gas holders. The by product coke was either used to heat more coal or sold off as a smokeless fuel. Of all these operations just two buildings remain, one of them I believe to be the Retort House.

The gas works were enlarged several times; a new Retort House, coal store and chimney was built in the last years of the nineteenth century, and in turn were again replaced in 1948. Apart from the Gas Manager's house, the remaining buildings are the last links with an industry that operated for around 130 years supplying town gas. When production ceased around 1958 town gas had not fallen out of favour, rather it was superseded by gas piped in from larger, more economic, plants. Later, around 1963, town gas was mixed with imported natural gas and then, after Conversion Day, purely natural gas, mostly from the North Sea became the fuel that heated our homes, even though lighting by gas began to be replaced in St Ives by electric lighting after 1929.

The Murketts site is planned to become a housing site and the new owners have applied to demolish the existing buildings. The Society have asked the developer for permission to photograph and measure the remaining gas works buildings. This has been agreed, the results will be offered to the Norris

works buildings. This has been agreed, the results will be offered to the Norris Museum for safe keeping.

There are two museums specialising in the Gas Industry, the National Gas Museum in Leicester and the Fakenham museum, the only museum with a working gas works. The image I've used of the Fakenham Retort House is from the Geograph web site, search Fakenham Gasworks from within Geograph, under the image is a very detailed statement of the gas making process with lots of links there to other parts of the process. Incidentally, I understand the Leicester works owned the St Ives works for many years prior to nationalisation in 1949 and that may explain why so few local records survive of the St Ives works.

TWO URGENT REQUESTS

Older Annual Reports

As we near our 50th anniversary we are keen to collect some sets of our earlier Annual Reports, especially those from before 2000. If you no longer want to keep your copies of the Annual Reports please contact Peggy Seamark on 01480 497384 or email me, David Stewart at chairman@stivescivic.org.uk

We hope to build up a couple of sets so that at least one can be made available for loan.

Are You Missing Out?

Many of our members, but by no means all, receive our Newsletters and other correspondence by email. Unfortunately it is too costly to regularly post our Newsletters.

If you have not been receiving our Newsletter and would like to, please send an email to heleneveleigh@hotmail.co.uk.

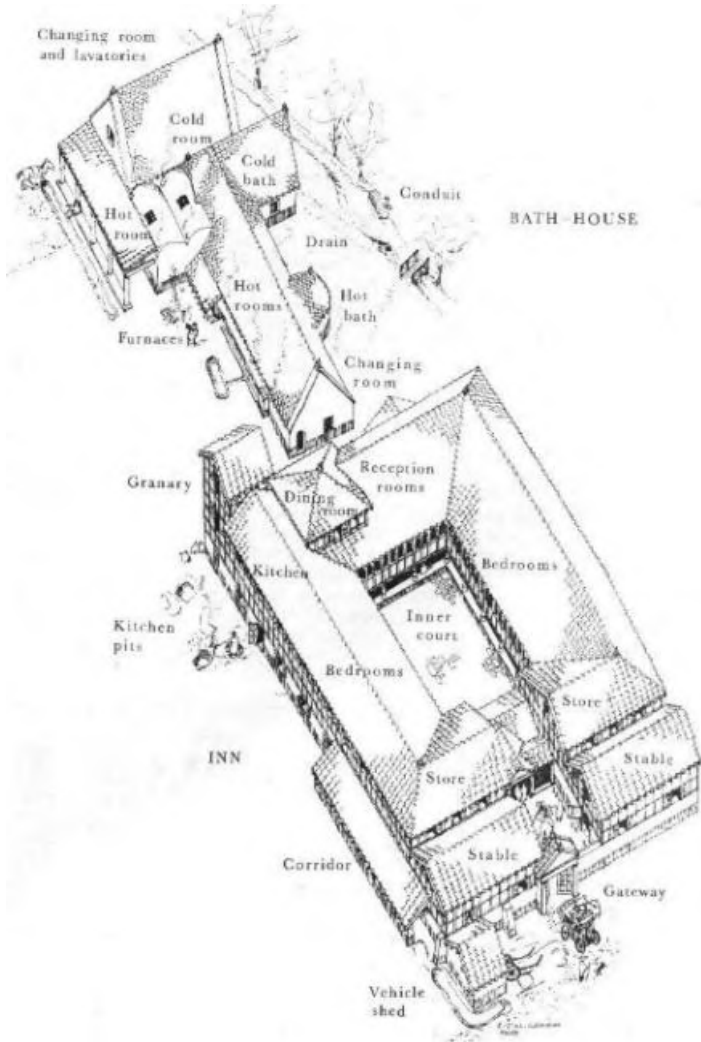
November's talk was given by John Deeks and he spoke about the history of Fenstanton.

THE EARLY HISTORY OF FENSTANTON

This large village, with a population of over 3200, has only been called Fenstanton relatively recently; it was identified in the Domesday Book as Stanton. However, we know the site was occupied in the Bronze Age, evidence including the remains of a barrow just north of the current village. Habitation was originally made possible by an area of relatively dry clay, gravel and loam in the midst of lakes and marshland, meaning that the small community could grow crops as well as reaping the traditional harvest of the Fens – fish and wildfowl. The marshes also afforded protection, both from wild animals and unfriendly neighbours, and for most of its early existence Fenstanton would have been an isolated and primitive place. It would also have been very unhealthy; mosquitoes were native to the marshes and malaria (known in the Middle Ages as the ague) was endemic until the eventual draining of the Fens in the 17th century. Although some evidence of Iron Age occupation has been uncovered, it is almost certain that a general rise in water levels covered most of the area for perhaps a thousand years until climate change resulted in this fenland island emerging once more from the waters at around the beginning of the Common Era.

After the Roman invasion of England the route from London north to York and beyond was of major strategic importance, and Godmanchester was a significant staging post on what became known as Ermine Street. The Romans also had to suppress rebellious tribes in East Anglia and the Midlands, so forts and garrisons were established at key locations, including Cambridge. Roads linked these sites, and another vital artery, for military movement as well as trade, was the Via Devana, which connected the Romans' first capital of Colchester with Godmanchester, the Midlands and Chester. It is believed that in Huntingdonshire this road followed the line of an earlier Celtic trackway which picked its way between islands of slightly higher ground in the marshes. This line is now, of course, the A14 and it passed along the current Fenstanton High Street, about half a mile to the south of the small Celtic settlement which was centred on the site of the parish church. A few coins and fragments of pottery now in the Norris Museum confirm a Roman presence in Fenstanton. The remains of a small Roman villa were discovered though never properly excavated, and it is suggested that a mansio may also have existed alongside

the road. A particularly fine example of a *mansio* (a Roman road house providing accommodation and services for travellers) was excavated at Godmanchester, sited where the *Via Devana* intersected Ermine St. These road houses were built alongside the Roman road network throughout the Empire, typically 25-30 kms apart which was the distance possible in a day by an ox-drawn cart. Given this is roughly the distance between Godmanchester and Cambridge, and Fenstanton is about half-way, a significant facility there seems unlikely; however, a cluster of small buildings providing refreshments or blacksmith services for example, is entirely feasible. (See diagram below).



By and large, normal life in Celtic Britain continued as before under Roman rule. The small community of Fenstanton would have been mainly subsistence farmers living in very modest thatched wooden huts in close proximity to their animals – a squalid and impoverished existence. Life expectancy was perhaps 30 years. The Romans did, however, offer stability and security, so when the Empire collapsed and the legions left Britain in AD 410 the way was clear for marauders from the continent to disrupt what had become a settled Romano-British way of life. In the Dark Ages first Saxons raided this area and ultimately colonised it. Later the Vikings arrived, probably by river from the Wash, and Fenstanton became part of the Danelaw. These were violent times, and villages such as Fenstanton would have been sacked and burned on many occasions as rival groups competed for supremacy and land. The final wave of foreign invasion was by Canute in 1016, but when he died in 1035 the House of Wessex was restored under Edward the Confessor and a period of relative Anglo-Saxon peace ensued.



The manor of Stanton cum Hilton was held at this time by a wealthy Saxon housecarl (local administrator owing personal allegiance to the king) called Ulf and was valued at 13 hides. The hide was a Saxon unit of the amount of land needed to support one family unit, and in theory there were 100 hides in a *hundred*, which was an administrative area akin to a modern parish (see map on previous page). Fenstanton was in the hundred of Toseland. Remarkably these divisions persisted until the 19th century, and the outer boundary of the four Huntingdonshire hundreds still mostly defines today's district.

Alas villagers such as those in Fenstanton were not spared for long because the Norman invasion meant another wave of violence and the suppression of individuals and communities which opposed the new rulers. Fenstanton came out in support of Hereward the Wake in his doomed attempt to resist the Normans. It is not recorded whether the village was punished for this, but the land was granted to Gilbert de Gaunt, son of the Count of Flanders and its value was assessed in the Domesday Book as £16, containing one manor and 33 households. We also know that by 1086 the village had a priest and a church; a few stones from this early church have been incorporated into the current building, which dates from the early 13th century.

Inevitably, the early history of places is a bit lacking in documentary evidence and historical context; there is much more to say about Fenstanton from the 12th century to the present day – but that's another story!

THE THREE PHOTOGRAPHERS

In January Alexa Cox returned for the third time to show more images from Huntingdonshire Archives' Whitney Collection. In her previous visits she had shown the collection's entire images of St Ives and the surrounding villages, this time she concentrated on the three photographers, Arthur Maddison, his stepson Frederick Hinde and Frederick's apprentice, Ernest Whitney. Their images span a hundred years from the 1850's to the 1950's. The earliest image in the collection is dated June 1855.

The first image was a portion of a bill of sale from Arthur Maddison, describing himself as 'Photographic Artist and Chemist' and dated 1859. She then described the heavy equipment and time consuming procedure necessary at a time when the negative glass slide had to be made immediately before use, used wet, and processed immediately after exposure. To take photographs outdoors a portable darkroom unit, mounted on a tripod was available, this

was an early innovation, and innovation has continued in photography to this day.

By the early 1880's the 'wet' plate had been superseded by the dry gelatin plate. A major innovation still in use into the 1950's and later. One image shown was of a remarkable lady, Mary Russell, Duchess of Bedford, taken in 1895. She later became known as the 'Flying Duchess' having taken up flying, aged 61 in the late 1920's. She piloted her own aircraft for 10 years until in 1937 she took off from the park at Woburn in her single seater plane, never to be seen again. Some wreckage from her plane washed up on the shores of the English Channel, but she was never found. Not only was Arthur Maddison taking photographs of Duchesses, he photographed a party including the Prince of Wales at Kimbolton Castle, and he also recorded habitual criminals in Huntingdon Prison.

The location of Arthur Maddison's first shop and studio is believed to have been roughly opposite All Saints' Church in the High Street in Huntingdon. In 1874 he married a widow, Julia Hinde, and purchased a house in Ermine Street, Huntingdon. The location was opposite the new Edison Bell Way. A new house was built on the site in 1996 and is called Maddison House.

Arthur Maddison died in 1887 and it's known that by 1890 his step son Frederick Hinde had taken over the business, which was renamed Maddison and Hinde. It was about this time that another innovation was the development by George Eastman of the Kodak box camera. These used film that was simply wound on after each exposure, and the whole film was then processed into negatives from which prints were made. Hinde's business flourished. He expanded by setting up a studio in Station Road, St Ives. As a result more images of St Ives can be found from this time.

He also took on an apprentice, Ernest Whitney in about 1904. But by 1910 Ernest had left to set up a rival business at 129 High Street, Huntingdon. In 1916 he was conscripted and he served on the western front. Alexa showed an aerial photograph of the Passchendaele and Yser Canals taken in September 1917, soon afterwards he was wounded but recovered at home only to return to serve in northern Italy, around 35 of his war images are in the Collection.

From 1919, on demob, until his retirement in 1959 Ernest ran his business from 148 High Street Huntingdon, that's at the southern end near where Niche Comics are today. He also became the photographer for Hunts Post

and many images of his are reproduced in the paper and held in the archives.

Frederick Hinde died unexpectedly in 1927, and former apprentice Ernest Whitney purchased the Maddison and Hinde business from Leila Hinde. He moved many glass plates from Hinde's studio in Ermine Street to his own studio in High Street. On his retirement he presented all of these, and all his own plates and negatives, lantern slides and prints, to the Records Office. He didn't move all the glass plates however and when the Ermine Street premises were demolished in the early 1970's many more glass plate negatives were found in the rubble, mostly broken.

On his retirement in 1959 Ernest retired to New Zealand, where he died in 1977, at the age of 88; but his name lives on, given to the Whitney Collection in Huntingdonshire Archives.



Two men on board the sailing boat "Lily" on the river at St Ives. The photograph is taken from what is now the grounds of the Dolphin Hotel. The channel originally provided access to the boats carrying osiers to Harrisons the basket makers in Filberts Walk. In the background the square chimney of Osborne's Brewery can be seen. Early 1900's.



The St Ives Free Church Bazaar Baby Show. A group of mothers holding their babies for the show in 1910

Photographs from the Whitney Collection at Huntigdon Records Office reproduced with their permission.

On 17th February we were given an insight into the excavation of the WWII Spitfire at Holme Fen by James Fairbairn of Oxford Archeology East.

THE EXCAVATION OF SPITFIRE X4593 AT HOLME FEN

The approximate location of the crash site of a Spitfire which crashed on 22 November 1940 was known but, because it lies within the Great Fen Project area at Holme Fen, excavation of the site had become urgent. The future planned reduction of pumping as a wetland area is created would lead to a rise in ground water levels. The planning and seeking of all the necessary permissions had been taking place for several years. The Ministry of Defence Archeologist had been very helpful. However permission to excavate would not have been granted if any human remains had been known to be present.

Spitfire X4593 had been completed on 1st October 1940, it had flown in conflict and credited with one kill. The Pilot Officer had enlisted on 6th October

1940, at the time of the crash he did not have much experience and was flying a training mission with 266 Squadron Royal Air Force, based at Wittering. He was considered to be capable of flying a single seater aircraft. During the training flight, with other aircraft, the plane broke away from the formation, crashed and the pilot killed. Following the crash the site had been attended by emergency services and the RAF, after seven days search the pilot's body was recovered.

The pilot was Pilot Officer Harold Penketh, he had worked for an insurance company in Brighton before enlisting as a volunteer. It is unclear what happened during the incident, the crash was attributed to either a failure of his oxygen system, or pilot failure. After his body was recovered it was returned to his family in Brighton, he was cremated.

Permission to excavate had been granted by RAF Innsworth and in September 2012 Cambridgeshire County Council had issued their Brief for the work. Oxford Archeology East had been appointed to carry out the Excavation. The first work on site was the completion of a geophysical survey in August 2015, two methods were used, a magnetometer and ground penetrating radar. Excavation was planned for a one week period in October 2015, i.e. after harvest and when ground water was expected to be low. Report writing would take place thereafter and be completed in 2016.

Having confirmed the location of the site the excavation area was marked out, a local resident told them "you won't find it here, it crashed over there". The archeologists trusted their survey! Topsoil was removed by machine and subsoil removed by hand and machine. At the surface a large area was excavated so that the excavation could be stepped to prevent collapse, a pump was used to remove ground water. It was found the peat overlaying clay was four metres deep.

Reports of the excavation caused a lot of media interest and TV crews were present most days. On day 1 the topsoil was removed, almost immediately finds were made and a 3D system used to record the location of each find, both horizontally and vertically. However, so many finds were being made, and their recording taking too much time, the 3D recording was given up on the second day.

were the pilot's headrest and the cockpit release catch. It was decided to open out the site further on the third day. Personal finds included clothing and the archaeologists became concerned that human remains may be found. Research had shown there were no living relatives but following a Radio Four item a second cousin came forward. Larger pieces of wreckage were being recovered and 303 ammunition found.

On day 4 the clay level was reached. A computer holding much data, including the GPS information suffered a 'crash' and seemed lost. However, a member of the army support staff knew an army expert and the information was recovered. During the day the propeller was found. Some personal items of Harold Penketh were also found, including his flying hat, watch and cigarette case, engraved with his initials. These were later returned to his newly found family.

Later in the day human remains were found, work was suspended. The Police, Coroner and Ministry of Defence were informed and a short service of remembrance held on site. A planned spitfire flypast took place. The human remains were later reburied with full military honours.

Permission to continue was given early on the fifth day. A volunteer aircraft archeologist from Holland arrived at the site and was very helpful, the engine was recovered as well as other parts found including the parachute release mechanism. That was the last day of excavation.

Many different groups had been involved in the organisation and completion of the excavation. Land owners the Wildlife Trust, Cambridgeshire County Council, Historic England and the RAF Cranfield University Forensic Institute completed the geophysical survey, 5131 (Bomb Disposal) Squadron from RAF Wittering were onsite for the excavation to manage any ammunition found. They also assisted the identification of recovered parts with their portable X-ray equipment. Members of Operation Nightingale of the Defence Archeology Group used their metal detectors to check excavated material for objects, other local archeology groups also assisted.

All airframe parts recovered were taken to the Pathfinder Museum at RAF Wyton for cleaning and display. There are plans to display some finds at a future Great Fen Visitor Centre. The site is now marked by a memorial stone.

In March Ainslie Bousfield from the International House of Flags at Kimbolton spoke to the meeting about:

THE HISTORY OF FLAGS

Flags have been around for centuries, used for a rallying point around which fighters could gather, a means of identifying different groups and organizations and a way of creating and inflaming passionate feelings.

However, it is very hard to pinpoint their first recorded use, although there is evidence to suggest that Alexander the Great's forces, around 334BC, used a pike with a leather shield mounted on the top. A far cry from what we understand flags to look like today.

A more widespread early use was by the Roman Legions; we've probably all seen films where a standard bearer is carrying a pole with a plaque showing 'SPQR'. In reality not every legion had a standard bearer, it is believed that this was an honour reserved for those legions comprising veterans.

As the decades and centuries moved on, then cloth became more popular as the material used, often with crudely painted symbols, as the vast majority of people were illiterate. Where the flag represented a more wealthy owner, then silk was the preferred choice, as it is light, easy to paint on, flew well in a breeze and was less susceptible to rot.

The evolution of the Union Jack, more correctly called the Union Flag, into the design we know today took place over many years.

While it is not possible to know for certain, the flag of England is that of St George who lived 280-303AD, and as you can see died very young. The story is that he was a Roman soldier, from Syrian ancestors who rescued a princess from Libya. Georgia, Malta and Catalonia also claim St George as their own.

Another possible origin is from the Knights Templar. The Knights Templar were the wealthiest, best educated and skilled at arms group of their time. Their symbol was a red cross on a white background. They came to England, on a recruitment drive in 1128, and in 1130 they built the round church in Cambridge on land donated by the Benedictine monks.

Scottish and English unification in 1603, under James I started the path to the incorporation of the Scottish flag. On 12th April 1606 the English and Scottish flags were officially combined, to become the Union Flag, and a proclamation was issued that all naval ships must fly the newly combined flag. Merchant

ships also chose to fly it in order to avoid paying port fees, that we due on non naval vessels. In 1634 there was a proclamation that the Union flag could only be flown by naval vessels, no merchants ships were permitted to use the flag, thus closing this loophole!

The incorporation of the Irish flag happened in 1800 when the Irish parliament was disbanded and the Irish flag combined with the then Union flag to arrive at the design that we have today.

Most national flags are adopted by royal proclamation or the passing of a law. Not so for the Union Flag, this was adopted by common use.

The term 'Union Jack' is more correctly reserved for when the flag is flown from the jackstaff at the front of a ship, although it is now the most common term in general use.

An anomaly is that the Welsh flag of St David, black and gold, is not incorporated into the Union flag. What would happen if Scotland became independent? Would the Union flag be redesigned by removing the Scottish St Andrew cross and including the Welsh flag?

A few fun facts:

1. Which country burns the most flags?

Answer: The United States of America. When a flag ceases to be of use it must be burnt or buried.

2. Tim Peake took a Union Flag with him on the International Space Station

3. Fiji left the Commonwealth in 1987 and designed a new flag comprising a lion, sugar cane and a cocoa pod which was planned to become the official flag in 2016. However, at the Rio Olympics that year, they won their first ever Gold medal with a victory over England in the Rugby Sevens final. The resulting publicity on TV and in the press, all still showing the 'old' flag was so great, that they decided to keep it!

The evening closed with a lively question and answer session.

Sue Knight gave our 21st April 2017 talk on the History of Holmewood Hall and its surroundings.

A HISTORY OF HOLMEWOOD HALL

The Hamlet of Holme is located to the south of Peterborough on the edge of the Fens. Holme is a viking word meaning island or peninsula surrounded by water and prior to 1850 the hamlet was best known for its proximity to Whittlesey Mere the largest freshwater lake in southern Britain until its draining in 1848. Despite the draining of the mere Holme still boasts having the lowest point in Britain together with the Admiral Wells, Britain's lowest pub.

Holme boasted a lode giving it access via the Mere and its associated waterways to Kings Lynn allowing it to function as a riverport throughout the medieval period. The woods around Holme were of importance during this period indeed in 1485 Sir Davy Phillips was appointed keeper of the woods of Holme, Glatton and Whittlesey Mere by Henry VII in recognition of his service at the battle of Bosworth.

It is not clear when the first Holmewood House was built but there is evidence that a medieval hall may have existed on the site prior to 1611 when Sir Robert Cotton acquired the Manor of Glatton cum Holme from the Duchy of Lancaster and a financially challenged James 1

The fabric of the existing building incorporates stones with the dates 1644, 1775 and 1873. It is unlikely that any building would have taken place until the draining of the local fens in the 1630s as the site of the house is low lying when compared to the site of the original hamlet which had developed on higher ground to the south. 17th century tax records show that the housing in and around the hamlet was comparatively modest. 1664 is probably the date when the first house that was to eventually become Holmewood Hall was built.

Holme remained in the ownership of Sir Robert Cotton's family until 1752 when it was sold to Thomas Truman a London merchant whose fortune came from the West India trade. At this time the woodland was valued higher than the farmland and Truman considerably extended the estate by buying up adjacent land, particularly woodland. Truman died in 1769 leaving the estate to his niece Elizabeth and her husband William Wells, a wealthy shipbuilder from Kent. When he took over the estate William Wells had a map produced in 1770 that provided the details of the buildings that might have been the pre-

cursor for the hall. The year 1775 must have been when Wells started to develop the existing buildings by either extending upward and outward in a mix of 17th and 18th century styles or demolishing and completely rebuilding, it is not known which. A drawing of the resultant House by the Reverend Edward Bradley exists to show what Wells achieved.



Holmewood House 1775

By this time the earlier fen drainage was proving to be inadequate and William Wells instigated an Act that allowed part of Holme Fen to be drained using windmills. William died in 1805 leaving the estate to his son Thomas who adopted Holmewood House as his main home and brought up his children there.

Thomas Wells had followed an active naval career and at the time of his death at Holmewood House in 1811 had achieved the rank of Vice Admiral. His second son Captain William Wells, a serving naval officer, inherited the estate. In 1816 he, William, married Lady Elizabeth Proby, daughter of the Earl of Carysfort with whom he had 6 children. William having retired from the Navy actively lobbied for Parliamentary reform and in 1818 stood for election to Parliament as a member of the Independent Freeholders of Huntingdon but

failed to get elected. He died in 1826, leaving the estate to his 8 year old son William and the family left Holmewood House renting it out until 1843.

Unusually for that time his wife, Lady Elizabeth Wells, was appointed sole executor of his estate. Captain Wells' Will states that his wife is of superior character and that he has faith that she will run the estate well. Captain Wells' son William (1818-1889), after graduating from Oxford University, took over management of Holmewood House and Estate from his mother in 1839. By 1844 he was making considerable improvements and played a major part in the draining of Whittlesey Mere which improved the quality of the land. This allowed increased rents to be charged with the money raised being reinvested in the village and estate.

The accounts for the estate show a large number of repairs had to be done in 1844. Some old cottages were knocked down and replaced by the walls now surrounding the house. William Wells (1818-1889) also filled in the Holme Lode and built a new carriage way from the house to the Yaxley Road and erected a gatehouse at what is now known as Woodman's cottage.

In 1873 the land tax returns show him as the 4th largest landowner in Huntingdonshire.

William Wells extended the House between 1873 and 1877 appointing William Young as Architect and J Thompson of Peterborough as builder. Part of the old building was demolished and then three new fronts added. The old part of the house at the back was then used as the servant's quarters. Some dormer windows from the old building were incorporated into the new and dressed to blend in. The new part was built in the Tudor style in red brick. The gate house was built in 1877, but the gates are dated 1631, the first floor of this building was used as a game larder.

The drawing room has an exceptionally large fire place, according to William Young the architect, this was built on the wall of the old house to tie the new and old parts together. There are several 17th century items incorporated into the new house including part of the staircase. The old part of the house can be seen in the two dormer windows just above the roof terrace.

Aside from rebuilding the House William Wells built the village school, church and many cottages and provided potable water by pipe from Stilton as the village's main source of water had been ponds. Unfortunately for William the vast of cost of these improvements coupled with the 1880s agricultural slump due to cheap corn becoming available from the Americas meant that when he

died in 1889 he left huge debts. The whole estate was sold including the House and its contents.



Young's 1873 drawing of the Alterations

Lord de Ramsey of Ramsey Abbey brought the estate in 1890 and Holme-wood House was let until 1902.

In 1902 John Ashton Fielding bought the Holmewood Estate, one of the richest men in England at the time. His main interest in the estate was shooting but he was known for his generous treatment of his tenants. His generosity was not restricted to the Estate, during World War 2 he offered the House to Peterborough Memorial Hospital as an auxiliary hospital, but the offer was not taken up due to an inadequate water supply. Subsequently he then housed ten women blinded in the bombing of London and Coventry. Fielden made no alterations to the house and in 1942 he died leaving the whole of the Estate to King Edward VII Hospital in London.

King Edward VII Hospital had no use for the property at this time but the build-up for the invasion of Europe had begun and the house was requisitioned for use by American forces. Holmewood House became a depot for the OSS, the US Office of Strategic Services, packing arms, ammunition, explosives and other essential supplies into canisters to be parachuted into Occupied Europe in support of the resistance and OSS operatives

This necessitated the building of blast walls and bunkers dispersed around the grounds of the house and the erection of Nissen and Romney huts with the house becoming the officer's mess and administrative centre. Some of the blast walls are still evident.

The fabric of the house suffered during its war service and when in late 1944 the OSS left it was in a disastrous state. In 1949/50 a descendent of the original Wells family, Sir John Wells, bought the House with the intention of restoring it but the leaking roof and dilapidation of the interior meant that it was beyond his means to achieve.

British Sugar in 1951 brought the House and its grounds establishing its seed and machinery research centre there. The fabric was restored and several flats were created to accommodate some of their fieldsmen. The orchard was used to trial sugar beet seed. It was around this time that the House became known as Holmewood Hall. The Hall was gradually restored to its present state so that it could be used as a conference and business centre and as wedding venue.



Holmewood Hall—Today

High running costs have led to British Sugar reviewing the future of the Hall and 'mothballing' it. In late 2016 the Hall was put on the market as a:-

“Grade II listed property and extensive outbuildings set in 10.4 acres (4.21 hectares) of picturesque woodland Suitable for a variety of alternative uses including residential, hotel or care home subject to necessary planning consents”.

Currently Holmewood Hall is under offer and awaiting another phase in its life.

Our final talk was given by Mike Petty, local Historian for over 50 years, author, broadcaster and ex curator of the Cambridge Collection

CAMBRIDGE MARKET, ITS HISTORY AND FUTURE?

Cambridge like all great cities is said to have been built on seven hills, Market Hill being one of them.

Originally Cambridge grew up around the castle and river and gradually spread southwards.

On the earliest surviving maps of the city – 1574 the market place was L shaped. It was surrounded by houses but Kings College can be seen in the distance and on one side is Great St Marys church.

A major fire in 1849 caused much destruction and the powers that be cleared several streets to give the square that we know today. One of these streets was Warwick Street also known as Pump Street and Well Street. This pleased the parishioners of Gt St Marys who up until then had a view through the alter window into the backs of these houses and straight into their bedrooms.

To celebrate the end of the Boar War an ornate fountain was built in 1856 in the centre of the square. This replaced the old Hobson Conduit which was moved to the junction of Lensfield Road and Trumpington Road following the 1856 fire where it still stands today. In a short time, due to the materials the fountain was constructed of, it started to crumble; along with it being a focal point for undergraduates to climb. It deteriorated so much that by 1953 the County Council told the Town Council to take the canopy down and this was in the days before health and safety took hold. Some of the stone figures went to the then Cambridge Folk Museum now the Museum of Cambridge

bridge leaving just the fountain base.

The Conduit was built by public subscription with Thomas Hobson of Hobson choice fame being the major one this provided the first supply of public fresh water to the town in 1614.

The conduit was not the only structure on the market square, it also had a market cross which after several reconstruction was finally removed in 1786.

Although change always happens the square is on the whole recognisable from 100 years ago.

The north side was redeveloped by Gonville and Caius College in 1934 to provide student accommodation. This building was designed by J Murray Easton and quickly became known as the White Cliffs of Caius due to its colour.

A new Guildhall was designed by C Cowles-Voysey and was built on the southside being completed in 1939. It was built in two halves unfortunately the bricks did not quite match and even today you can see the join. The clock has a cockerel and an Owl on either side to represent being alert day and night. The building was never formally opened due to the imminent start of world war 2.

The market now operates 7 day unlike previous centuries when it only operated on Wednesday and Saturday. Stalls are now concentrated into the square but until the 19th cent they extend into neighbouring streets.

Sundays are now mainly arty crafty with no traders like fruit and veg stalls.

The market place has always attracted its share of colourful characters; during the 70's Trevor was one who was a friendly harmless drunk who sat or rather laid against the fountain.

A more well known one was Snowy Farr, who stood on the edge of the square against the Guildhall with his menagerie of animals collecting money for Guide Dogs for the Blind of which he raised thousands over the years.

The square has seen many diverse uses over the years. Ranging from recruitment in the First World War to celebrations following victory and student pranks in rag week

There are always plans for the future of the market place. One such recently suggested was to make an outdoor cinema in the square during the summer.

The House with No Namenot the Manor House or The Farmhouse, not a Hall or named after it's first owner, simply

37 THE BROADWAY, ST IVES

Have you wondered, like me, why number 37 doesn't have a name? For such a large, imposing building it seems surprising, but it is thought the reason is that it began life as a more modest home, and grew.



Number 37 is thought to date from 1709, and was originally part of the Duke of Manchester's estate, but it is not known when it was sold off. The front part is the original house, just one room deep. An extension, at right angles to the front, creating an L-shaped building, was added around or just after 1916 (judging by a coin found on the extension staircase). The "cottage" across the courtyard is probably early Victorian, and there were originally further outbuildings along the river frontage.

The whole property was lived in for a hundred years or so by members of the same family, latterly the Dellar family, who ran a wool-stapling and fellmongering business. (A wool-stapler was a dealer in wool and fellmongering was the preparation of skins for tanning). It is believed that the animal pelts were brought from the old St Ives abattoir and the wools made into rugs in the storage barn – now converted and known as the "cottage" – dried in the outbuilding, and stretched on frames in the storage barn, eventually being loaded by derrick onto barges for transportation. An old sign for the business and one of

the large wooden stretcher frames are in the care of the Norris Museum.

The original house that fronts onto The Broadway consists of a tiny hallway and two ground-floor rooms (with suspended floors) now below pavement level and flooded in 1998. On the first floor are three rooms with ceilings higher than on the ground floor, one of which is over the archway entrance. There is a large attic that runs across the building, which was originally divided into “rooms” and were occupied by the maids. They were divided by partitions made of saplings with sacking stretched across and covered with newspaper, one of which reported the installation of the bronze lions in Trafalgar Square in 1867.

There is a large chimney stack that runs the full height of the original house serving fire-places in all four main rooms. In one of the first floor rooms an old painted fire surround in the Arts and Crafts style was discovered along with a complete Carron fire-basket.



In the hundred-year-old extension there are a breakfast room and a kitchen, part of which was the scullery with back door and a larder. Beyond the larder and old scullery was the original garage (too small for a modern car), so this has now been incorporated into the house, with a new garage built beyond. Upstairs there are two bedrooms and bathroom covered by a slate roof at a shallow angle.

Within the original house one of the ground floor rooms has an old cupboard adjacent to the chimney, which probably provided access to the original front

staircase. The staircase was later redirected into a conservatory (now replaced by a brick built extension across the back of the old house). The sitting room and dining room (both the ground floor front rooms) have inglenooks. The staircase is now at the back of the original building.

There are two large gates off The Broadway into the courtyard, giving vehicular access for both the main house and the “cottage”, ie the old storage barn which was converted in 2001 until when it still contained a bread oven.



The outbuildings on the river frontage apparently housed, at first floor, the drying area for the rug materials with vents to open to create airflow. There was a boat house below with a small opening onto the river. None of these now exist with the final remnants disappearing with the building of the Environment Agency flood alleviation scheme completed in 2007.

The Cottage was sold in late 2016 and the sale of Number 37 is currently going through.

This article was written from notes provided by Jenny Smithers.

Barbara Richmond

*Front cover: a sketch of Crown Yard, St Ives by Edward Walker.
Courtesy of the Victoria & Albert Museum*

Edward Walker (1879-1955)

Edward Walker was born in Bradford on 17th January 1879.

He studied at Bradford School of Art, 1895-1900 and the Royal College of Art, 1900-1906. Between 1906 and 1908 he was Head of the Design Department at Sheffield Technical School of Art. From 1908-1911 he was Head of the Art Department at London County Council Paddington Technical Institute. From 1911-1921 he was Director of Art at Cheltenham Ladies College, and in 1921 was appointed as Head of Scarborough School of Art.

During the years after World War Two he produced artwork for posters issued by the LNER.

The cover shows a sketch of Crown Yard, drawn by the artist Edward Walker, and now held in the V&A's 'Recording Britain' collection. The sketch is dated 2nd May 1941. The Recording Britain scheme employed respected artists and was funded by the Pilgrims Trust, an American charity. More than 1,500 sketches and paintings were made and widely exhibited. The Trust later donated them to the V&A.

The Crown Inn had closed in 1930. Shops were then opened and they remained until June 1975 when a serious fire destroyed the Crown's buildings. In time they were replaced with Woolworths store and a newsagents (now Poundland and Fat Face). In the rebuild the archway to Crown Place was moved some distance to the west, consequently the view shown of Bridge Street from the Yard can no longer be seen.

Before the fire the archway gave access through the Crown Inn to Crown Yard, originally around which were the Crown's outbuildings; behind Crown Yard was Crown Place. Today Crown Place has become the name for the footpath from Crown Street to East Street. Next door in Crown Street is the Royal Oak public house, its yard now has some Mews houses and has been named Crown Yard.

So a long tradition of renaming streets in St Ives continues.

*Published by the Civic Society of St Ives © 2017
Registered under the Charities Act 1960 (No 257286)*

Printed by The Artworks 01487 842687 E-mail: artworks@sundial.co.uk