



## BERKHAMSTED LOCAL HISTORY AND MUSEUM SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 803417

Founded 1950 as Berkhamsted & District Local History Society

### SPRING NEWSLETTER 2008

**NEWS** Those of you who heard the most enjoyable talk, *The Story of Ovaltine* in October by Frank Davies, Chairman of Kings Langley Local History & Museum Society, will, I am sure, be sorry to hear that he passed away in January after a short illness. Condolences were expressed to his family, and the Society was represented at the funeral.

**MEETINGS** The New Year started with a talk by Roger Leishman of the Wendover Arm Trust, and a member of this Society. Roger gave us a detailed account of the history of the Wendover Arm and of the present aspirations of the Trust. The February meeting was a film evening. One long film, *The Queen of He(a)rts* and two shorter films, from our archives, depicting the visit of the Prince of Wales in June 1935 and Morris Dancing outside the Rex Cinema (1950) were shown. It is hoped that at a later date other similar films can be shown.

For our March meeting we welcome Graham Laurie formerly a pilot with the Queen's Flight, who will give us a talk entitled *The History of Royal Flying*.

**NB. SPECIAL MEMBERS' EVENING** This year we are breaking with tradition and holding a special members' evening on Wednesday April 23<sup>rd</sup> in the Civic Centre at 8pm. We are planning to show you some of the artefacts, photographs and documents from the Society's collection and with the help of a power point presentation to give you an idea of the range of our collection, which is housed in the Museum Store. We are also hoping to give you a better idea of the different activities, which are open to members of the Society. Additionally we should like your views on what is on offer and what you would like from us.

**SUMMER OUTINGS.** The following visits have been arranged.  
Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June 10.30 for 11am the Museum of St. Albans, Hatfield Rd. St. Albans. Chris Green will show us the Salaman collection of tools. 4.00  
Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 10.30 for 11am, High Wycombe Museum to view the collection of Windsor chairs etc. £4.00 per head.  
Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> August. A walk along the Wendover Arm with Roger Leishman. £4.00 per head. Details available later.  
Please phone Ken Wallis on 877592 to book or to request transport to the venues.

**SATURDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> MAY.** We are expecting a group from a Veteran Cycle Club to visit Berkhamsted some time in the morning. They are enthusiasts of Thomas Stevens, who was born in Berkhamsted and travelled round the world on a bicycle. Further details later.

**CASTLE VISITOR ROOM OPENING** The Castle Visitor Room will open to the public for the Bank Holiday Weekend on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, Easter Saturday, and thereafter from 3<sup>rd</sup> May until the end of September at weekends and Bank Holidays. Those of you who kindly offered to help with stewarding will shortly be contacted so that we can draw up a rota. From April onwards school and other groups will have the opportunity of booking during the week to see the panels in the Visitor Room and to have a tour of the castle. We already have a booking from a group of French students and from Sarratt History Society. Several NADFAS members have offered to help with stewarding at the Castle and have asked for an induction day first. These will be held on 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> March at 10am and 2pm. Any Society members stewarding for the first time are welcome to come along too. Please contact me on 865158.

**'BERKHAMSTED –A HISTORY & CELEBRATION'** This book and the accompanying quiz book is now available for purchase at meetings of the Society or direct from me, or at Berkhamsted Community Markets at £10 to members and £12 to non-members. The Quiz Book at £5 and £6 respectively.

**STOP PRESS! SALE OF OTHER REMAINDER BOOKS.**

We have just learnt that we are to have the opportunity to sell several other local books previously available from Bookstack. These will include 'Gateway to the Chilterns', 'Bygone Berkhamsted' and 'Reminiscences of Berkhamsted.' Further details of prices etc available later.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS** A few subscriptions due in January are still outstanding. Please let Michael Browning have them as soon as possible.

**CHRONICLE V.** This year's Chronicle should be enclosed with this newsletter. Since it is number 5 we have treated you to several extra pages. We hope you will enjoy reading it. Once again, we welcome feedback.

**I WISH YOU ALL A GOOD SUMMER AND LOOK  
FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER  
JENNY SHERWOOD MARCH 2008**