



# Beacons Project receives Lottery green light

Ivinghoe Beacon at dawn (Chris Smith)

Plans to research and celebrate Iron Age hillforts and other prehistoric features in the beautiful Chilterns landscape have received major National Lottery support.

The Chilterns Conservation Board has been awarded £50,200 by the Heritage Lottery Fund as initial support to develop an exciting new project to research, promote and conserve hillforts and other prehistoric features in the Chilterns countryside.

The *Beacons of the Past - Hillforts in the Chilterns Landscape* project will bring these ancient and mysterious features back to life and enable people to discover the fascinating history on their doorsteps. Plans include surveying and researching the hillforts and using laser technology to search for previously undiscovered prehistoric features. Events and educational activities will shine a light on the Iron Age and people will be able to explore and enjoy these evocative sites. Practical works will also help to improve their condition and accessibility.

The Chilterns has one of the densest concentrations of hillforts in the country. 22 Iron Age hillforts are scattered across the hills, built around 2,500 years ago by communities who lived, traded and secured their animals in them. Ivinghoe Beacon near Tring is the most visible hillfort. Others are harder to find, hidden in woodland near places like Wendover, Princes Risborough and Henley-on-Thames.

The Board will use the grant to employ a Development Officer to work up the 4-year project plan. A full funding bid will be submitted to the HLF next year for a grant of up to £745,800. The Board will work closely with partners including the National Trust, the Chiltern Society, Forestry Commission and local authorities.

Stuart McLeod, Head of Heritage Lottery Fund South East, said: *“The hillforts of the Chilterns, those already known and loved and the ones yet undiscovered, provide an invaluable link to our Iron Age heritage. Thanks to National Lottery players we're delighted to offer our support for this project which will reveal prehistoric secrets, enhance our understanding of these landmarks and protect this historic landscape for future generations to enjoy.”*



Your support is crucial to the success of this pioneering project:

If you would like more information about getting involved, receiving a newsletter or making a donation towards our fundraising efforts, please contact Cathy Rose on 01844 355 506 or email [crose@chilternsaonb.org](mailto:crose@chilternsaonb.org)

*“This great achievement for the Conservation Board means we can properly research and celebrate our wonderful wealth of hillforts in the Chilterns,”* said Alison Doggett, landscape historian and member of the Board. *“We'll now start discussions with local partners and experts on how to get as many people as possible involved in our rich local history.”*

# Celebrating many shades of Capability Brown in Buckinghamshire

Claire de Carle MA

2016 marks 300 years since the birth of Lancelot 'Capability' Brown, the renowned landscape designer. Brown is estimated to have worked or advised on over 255 sites across the country, with 17 sites being attributed to him in the historic county of Buckinghamshire.

Three of these Buckinghamshire sites are considered amongst his greatest works: Stowe, Wotton House and Ashridge. He arrived at Stowe (Grade I listed / National Trust) in 1741, aged 25 and stayed for ten years, becoming head gardener to Lord Cobham. Whilst there, he created the Grecian Valley and started to establish a name for himself. In the 1750s Brown laid out the stunning landscape dominated by lakes at nearby Wotton House (Grade II\* / privately owned). At Ashridge (Grade II\* / National Trust) he apparently created the Golden Valley.

His genius was in his instant ability to see how a work of art could be created out of raw land or an existing formal garden. His nickname is said to have come from this ability to size up a site. "Why my Lord", he replied when asked his opinion by a client, "the place has its capabilities".

Anecdotes of Mr Brown the gardener. The Morning Post, 30th July 1774.

Capability Brown is credited with establishing the archetypal Arcadian English landscape garden yet few written records and no plans or drawings survive for the Brown sites in Bucks. The attribution of the sites has been possible from information that survives in several account books from the period; some kept by Brown himself and others by Drummonds Bank, plus other documentary sources.

For the past two years the Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust (BGT) ([www.bucksgardenstrust.org.uk](http://www.bucksgardenstrust.org.uk)) has run a Research and Recording Project (the pilot scheme was funded by HLF), visiting

many of the 400+ significant historic gardens across the county and recording the findings to ensure their protection for future generations. The Trust has looked at some of Brown's lesser known sites, which are not included on the Historic England Register of Historic Parks and Gardens, some of which are within the Chilterns. These are Chalfont House (the house and grounds now containing offices), Chenies Manor, (in association with Latimer Park, Grade II), Boarstall Tower (National Trust), Stoke Place (now a hotel) and Stoke Poges Manor (privately owned).

The BGT Research & Recording project is currently funded by The Finnis Scott Foundation and The Stanley Smith (UK) Horticultural Trust



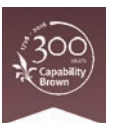
Portrait of Lancelot 'Capability' Brown, c.1770-75, Cosway, Richard (1742-1821) Private Collection / Bridgeman Images

Brown's account books show he was paid 15gns for two visits to Boarstall in 1769, however it does not appear that any work was carried out there. At Chalfont House he

was paid £35 which may have covered the cost of survey. The landscape work at Chalfont, including a lake created by damming the River Misbourne was carried out by Nathaniel Richmond, with further improvements made by Humphrey Repton. This landscape remains largely intact, despite the later addition of a golf course and the A413 now bisecting the parkland. An Italian garden designed by Lutyens and Jekyll in the twentieth century is now sadly gone.

Throughout 2016, the work of this remarkable man will be celebrated through a nationwide Capability Brown Festival, including several events in the Chilterns

(listed in events section of this newsletter). For more information on the Festival visit [www.capabilitybrown.org](http://www.capabilitybrown.org)



As well as the Buckinghamshire sites mentioned in this article, Capability Brown also worked at, or influenced work at a number of sites in and close to the Chilterns. Records suggest he was responsible for gardens and parkland at Caversham, Denham, Fawley Court, Langley, Luton Hoo, Rycote, Taplow Court, Thame Park, The Hoo (Hitchin) and Wycombe Abbey.

There are tenuous links to suggest that he may have been involved in some way at Basildon Park, Cliveden, Harleyford, Hartwell House, Park Place, Shardeloes and West Wycombe.

Some of these sites are in private ownership and not open to public. Check [www.parksandgardens.org](http://www.parksandgardens.org) for more information.



Painting of Chalfont House by Thomas Girtin

# Anniversary tree-planting leaves great legacy at Great Missenden



*Chilterns Conservation Board chairman Ian Reay, Sir Henry Aubrey-Fletcher, Sue Holden and Lord Carrington at the tree planting*

## Claire Forrest, Chilterns Conservation Board

**W**ednesday 16th December 2015 was a very special day for the Chilterns: it was 50 years to the day that our local countryside became nationally-protected as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The AONB designation is given to some of the finest landscapes in the UK and marks out the Chiltern Hills as a priceless national treasure.

To celebrate this landmark anniversary the Lord Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire, Sir Henry Aubrey-Fletcher and Lord Carrington, Bucks resident and former Foreign Secretary, planted a tree each in a new grove in Angling Spring Wood at Great Missenden. Other invited guests including the Chief Executive of Chiltern District Council Bob Smith, Martin Tett the Leader of Bucks County Council and local conservation volunteers planted another 48 young trees, making a total of 50 trees planted to celebrate the 50th anniversary.

Sir Henry Aubrey-Fletcher said: "We must preserve the Chilterns for generations to come. It is so well-loved by millions, and there are many who look after it, such as organisations like the Chilterns Conservation Board and also

farmers and landowners. We must ensure it continues to be enjoyed and protected for our grandchildren and beyond."

Lord Carrington spoke of his appreciation of the Chilterns: "How lucky we are that the Chilterns is protected as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. We must keep it beautiful!"

"We see this planting of a new grove of trees as a celebration of the woods for which the area is so well-known and a chance to leave a legacy for the next 50 years and more," said Sue Holden, Chief Officer at the Chilterns Conservation Board.

Angling Spring Wood is owned by Chiltern District Council and is a very popular place for local walkers. It is also well-known as a source of inspiration for Roald Dahl, the famous author who lived in Great Missenden for 30 years and often walked through the Wood, which is just up the lane from his home.

The trees planted in the new glade are small-leaved limes and wild service trees, two native species believed to be more resilient to pests and climate change.

## About the Board

The Chilterns Conservation Board is a public body set up to conserve the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and encourage everyone to enjoy and care for the special features of this nationally-important landscape. The Board's work spans a wide range of themes, from historic environment (which includes the production of this newsletter) to wildlife conservation, building design and planning, land management, recreation and tourism. It has 27 members drawn from local communities and a staff team of 9.

Visit [www.chilternsaonb.org](http://www.chilternsaonb.org) to find out more about the Board and the Chilterns AONB.



## You can help

You can contribute to this great legacy from the 50th anniversary by sponsoring a tree in the grove.

### Each tree costs £15 to plant and protect.

If you would like to sponsor a tree please send a cheque payable to the Chilterns Conservation Board along with your name and address. In return we will send you a certificate of sponsorship and information about Angling Spring Wood. If you would like other payment options do contact us ([cforrest@chilternsaonb.org](mailto:cforrest@chilternsaonb.org)). Please send your sponsorship to: Sponsor a Tree, Chilterns Conservation Board, 90 Station Road, Chinnor, Oxon OX39 4HA.

### Gift sponsorship

Why not sponsor a tree for someone as a gift? Just let us know who to send the certificate and information to.

# Unravelling a mystery at Saunderton's workhouse

Jackie Kay



caretaker's bungalow

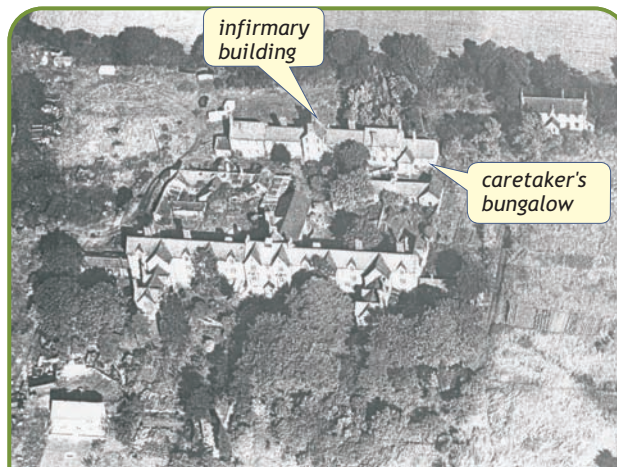
The whitewashed caretaker's bungalow can be seen clearly in the grounds of the Clare Charity Centre.  
The original workhouse would have been just to the left of the current building. Copyright: Whispercam

In the grounds of the Clare Charity Centre in Saunderton, there is a small white-washed building, reputed to be all that remains of the Wycombe Union Workhouse which once stood on the site. It is currently used as office space for a charity and has been completely gutted inside for its modern use. Despite the whitewash, the traditional brick and flint construction of its rear (north-east-facing) wall is still evident. In the mid-1950s, it served as a caretaker's bungalow for Ortho Pharmaceuticals Ltd, part of the Johnson and Johnson group, for whom the main building on the site with its imposing pseudo Art Deco features surrounding a large manufacturing area, had just been built.

The Wycombe Union Workhouse it replaced had been an equally imposing huge gothic-style building mostly comprising 3-4 storeys including attics in the gables. Designed by George Gilbert Scott, it had separate wings for male and female inmates, and an infirmary block at the back. Architect's drawings, and later photographs and maps, show the layout clearly. It served as a workhouse from 1841 until the middle of the First World War when it was completely taken over for military purposes. Thereafter it had a rather chequered history, parts being used for some time as flats and later as a Youth Hostel. It appears to have been demolished in stages.

So exactly which part of the old workhouse was our caretaker's bungalow of the nineteen fifties which still survives to the current day? It ought to be an easy question to answer, but it

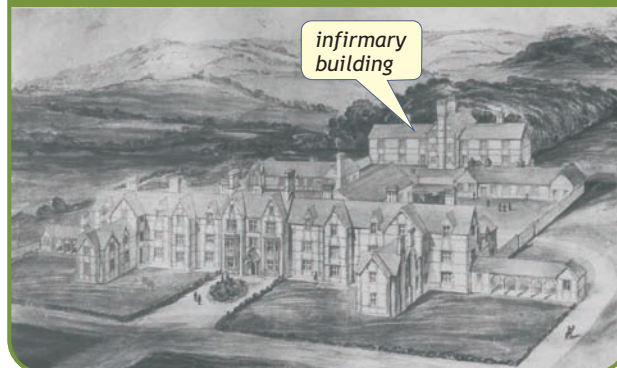
isn't. Overlaying maps of different vintages it becomes clear that the bungalow lies adjacent to but outside the original footprint of the workhouse, with one (north-west facing) wall incorporating the chimney coinciding with the south eastern end of the infirmary building. Or, put another way, it was a single-storey extension to the infirmary at some point, probably not until after the workhouse ceased operation. An aerial photograph taken shortly before demolition confirms that such an extension was made, but doesn't answer the questions of when or why.



infirmary building

caretaker's bungalow

This 1950s photograph shows that the caretaker's bungalow was part of a later extension to the original infirmary building, as shown in the c1841 architect's drawing. (Both photographs supplied by [www.workhouses.org.uk](http://www.workhouses.org.uk))



infirmary building

It seems odd that only the rear wall was constructed to match the adjoining workhouse. No such effort was made for the front wall. Was this expedient action during World War I? Or even later? Do any readers know? If so, please contact Jackie Kay at [jackiehkay@aol.com](mailto:jackiehkay@aol.com) or 01494 534876.

# Recording and protecting our war memorials

Mike Hyde



**R**eflection on the events of the First World War in recent years has led to a resurgence of interest in war memorials, and a realisation that they need to be conserved and protected in the long-term. To this end, in November 2015, a workshop was held at Booker by Civic Voice on surveying war memorials. It was attended by local volunteers from Marlow, Booker, Flackwell Heath and High Wycombe.

So, what is a war memorial? Most people know the local stone cross in their community which they might attend on Remembrance Day and the Cenotaph in London but are there others? Memorials can be as diverse as wall plaques in churches, offices, factories, stations, schools, etc. Then there are buildings such as memorial halls, hospitals, parks and gardens, trees and gates. Plus statues, memorial stones, stained glass windows and tapestries, boats and bridges.

The workshop attendees discovered that the list of places and the way in which the fallen are remembered is almost endless. Following advice on recording and reporting, a practice survey visit was made to the RAF

Memorial at Booker Air Park. It was agreed that a survey to record the condition of all war memorials in the area would be beneficial, and eventually, if appropriate, professional cleaning or renovation, even replacement might be proposed.

Volunteers who attended the workshop are now compiling that list of memorials in their area and planning to visit them in time.

If you would like to be involved in this exercise please visit [www.warmemorialsonline.org.uk](http://www.warmemorialsonline.org.uk) For Marlow & District enquires go to [www.marlowww1.org.uk](http://www.marlowww1.org.uk)

Following the successful commemoration event held last summer at the WW1 training trenches on Marlow Common, the 'Marlow Remembers WW1 Association' plan further talks and events over the next twelve months. You can also visit the Marlow Museum (open weekends 1-5pm from March) to see the latest display on the effect of the Great War on the community and to get up on local

history. Entry is free. Exclusive visits by schools or small groups can be arranged. See [www.marlowmuseum.org](http://www.marlowmuseum.org) for more information.



Volunteers at the RAF war memorial at Booker Air Park

## Amersham's WW1 Project

Chiltern U3A's research published on-line by Amersham Museum. Anthony del Tufo

**T**he centenary of the start of the First World War inspired the two Family History Groups of the Chiltern U3A to produce a record of the 98 individuals listed on the Amersham War Memorial located in the Garden of Remembrance and the Roll of Honour in St. Mary's Church. A limited edition book was published (with free copies for libraries, museums and archives) together with an on-line version. The aim was to 'bring our heritage to life' by researching the individuals' families, their employment, role in the community, as well as their military records and where they fought, with the help of the Heritage Lottery Fund.

U3A's sixteen researchers began by consulting the invaluable Buckinghamshire Remembers website. The site has all the WW1 memorials in Buckinghamshire with a full list of all the names on each, with a record of the regiment, service number, some personal details, names of next of kin and the date of death and place of burial or commemoration of each serviceman. The site also has Clint's Roll of Honour, which has a list of references especially to local newspapers carrying items relating to individual casualties. Researchers then went on to delve into the family history of the servicemen, using birth, marriage and death records, parish registers, and information

from various censuses. Wartime service was researched using military records kept by The National Archives, regimental museums and archives, war diaries compiled during the conflict and regimental histories written later. Details of burials and commemorations were found on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website.



Because only 80 copies of the book were printed (all now donated or sold), Amersham Museum has put the book's contents on to its local history website. This means that it is easily available to family history researchers and can be updated when necessary. It is part of the Museum's plan to use its AmershamHistory.info website to make it possible for local community groups to put historical records online. The website, which now has over 250 pages, aims to be a well-indexed, searchable and ever-expanding community scrap-book covering houses, people and many other areas of local history. See [www.amershamhistory.info/research/wwi/amersham-remembers/](http://www.amershamhistory.info/research/wwi/amersham-remembers/) for more information.

# The Atlas of Hillforts of Britain and Ireland Project - an update



Professor Gary Lock, University of Oxford

Volunteers at Ivinghoe Beacon learning how to survey hillforts (Photo: Chris Smith)

**H**illforts are the most obvious legacy of the Iron Age, often in commanding positions in the landscape. Very soon you will be able to find out a lot more about these spectacular and often enigmatic sites. The Atlas of Hillforts project, funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, is now in the last of its four years. Working with the Universities of Edinburgh and Cork, its aim is to record information on all hillforts in England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Ireland.

Although some information does exist in local and national monuments records, the project aims to collate, enhance and integrate this data into a single accessible resource. As well as a paper atlas, an online database will be produced that can be searched by location or hillfort characteristics, e.g. entrance type and / or the number of encircling ramparts. Searches will provide reports and link to maps and satellite images, providing a rich resource for a range of audiences from scholars to the interested public.

One important element of the data collection has been the involvement of local people through a Citizen Science survey programme. Survey forms and guidance notes for describing and recording earthworks have been provided, and the response has been very good with over 160 forms returned together with additional information on a range of hillforts. Within the Chilterns, various groups and individuals have been active, many co-ordinated by Dr Jill Eyers of Chiltern

Archaeology. Surveys have been completed for many of the known hillforts including Ivinghoe Beacon, Pulpit Hill and Cholesbury. Of great interest and importance has been the identification and recording of three possible new hillforts at Greenfield Copse, Hobb's Hill and Holmer Green. This work has helped to generate increased interest in, and understanding of hillforts which often only remain as a complicated set of humps and bumps in the ground. It has also provided training in various aspects of field archaeology for a range of people, including, for example,



Chiltern Archaeology volunteers getting stuck in (Jill Eyers)

geophysical survey as carried out at Greenfield Copse to confirm the presence of buried ditches.

Data collection is now nearly complete with almost 4,000 sites recorded. Over the coming months the information will be edited; maps produced for the paper Atlas; and the public website with the searchable database will be developed. The resource should be available by the end of 2016, giving people the tools to learn about and visit these spectacular prehistoric sites, not just in the Chilterns but all over Britain and Ireland.

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# Reviving the Chiltern Heritage Trail

Richard Bradbury



Chenies Manor House and Gardens (Keith Hoffmeister)

If your idea of a good walk includes beautiful scenery, picturesque villages and fascinating insights into the rich history of the area through which you're passing, the Chiltern Heritage Trail promises an abundance of all three. Originally a Chiltern District Council project completed as part of the Millennium celebrations, this walk of about 50 miles linking all of the District's 14 parishes has been somewhat neglected in recent times. Now, however, the Chiltern Society has taken over responsibility for promoting it. Its volunteers have been checking the route and updating descriptions; adding new information about the many places of interest; and replacing lost or damaged signs.

The Society's guidebook for the Trail is expected to be published in early summer. It will divide the Trail into eight stages: Chesham to Chenies; Chenies to Chalfont St Peter; Chalfont St Peter to Old Amersham; Old Amersham to Penn Street; Penn Street to Great Missenden; Great Missenden to Chartridge; Chartridge to Ashley Green; and Ashley Green to Chesham.

Walkers can enjoy the villages of Latimer, Coleshill, Winchmore Hill, Little Missenden, The Lee and Cholesbury, all with their own special stories to tell. There is also riverside walking along the Chess and the Misbourne. Most stages are accessible by public transport, and there are plenty of interesting and welcoming pubs where you can enjoy well-earned refreshment.

The Trail takes in a number of popular attractions, such as Chenies Manor, Chiltern Open Air Museum, Milton's Cottage and

the Quaker village of Jordans, with its renowned meeting house and Mayflower Barn, which is said to contain timbers from the iconic ship. There are also lesser-known gems to discover, many of them easy to overlook without the help of an informative guidebook. There are literary and political associations, old mill sites, many churches, an Iron Age hill fort, a Grade II listed well and at least one allegedly haunted pub.

Check the Chiltern Society website [www.chilternsociety.org.uk](http://www.chilternsociety.org.uk) for publication details in due course. In the meantime, you can explore all the other walking opportunities listed there, or order a copy of the Society's highly successful 2015 publication, *50 Great Walks in the Chilterns*.

## Tring Heritage Trail explore the history

Peter Cox

Tring Heritage Trail is a newly created, freely available guide to the rich and interesting history of the town of Tring. It is available as both a printed, colour fold-out map and as an app that includes fascinating historical information, with archive photos and activities for children to enjoy at every location.

The Trail is focussed around the town centre but includes other places of interest in the area.

The app includes audio commentary and high quality images. Your phone will alert you when near a location of interest. There is also a feature called SUPERimpose - allowing users to take photos of how things look today, compared with the archive photos supplied - creating their very own 'then and now' collection.



The free printed map and guide is available from the Local History Museum or the Natural History Museum at Tring.

The app is available on iTunes or Google Play - simply search for 'Tring Heritage Trail' and download now.

A special education pack has also been created in conjunction with the Trail that can be used by schools at Key Stages 1 & 2.

The Tring Heritage Trail has been generously supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

For more see <http://www.tringlocalhistorymuseum.org.uk>

# Volunteers work in Grim conditions to maintain ancient monument

Colin Bradley, Forestry Commission

**V**egetation encroachment can have a hugely damaging effect on ancient monuments. To combat this problem, The Forestry Commission (the Government department that manages the Public Forest Estate in England) has joined forces with Chiltern Society volunteers to improve the condition of a stretch of Grim's Ditch in the Chilterns.

Grim's Ditch or Dyke, is the name given to a series of iron-age ditch and bank earthworks scattered across the uplands of southern England. In the Chilterns, the stretches in South Oxfordshire between Mongewell and Nettlebed and in Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire between Bradenham and Ivinghoe were constructed approximately 2,500 years ago by the Celtic Catuvellauni tribe, who held the territory north of the river Thames.

The Ditch was created by excavating soil from a trench and depositing it to one side, as a parallel bank. Due to extensive farming, only remnants of the monument remain, often in wooded areas left relatively untouched by humans, but in places the ditch exceeds three metres in width, and some parts of the bank are even wider.



Grim's Ditch (Photo: Colin Bradley)

The volunteers have been concentrating their efforts in Baldwin's Wood near St. Leonards, Bucks (Grid ref: SP901 072 - Landranger 165). Here, the ditch still retains some of its form, but is overgrown, with naturally regenerating trees and other vegetation posing a risk to the earthwork's integrity.

They have worked intermittently in the woods for four years, removing vegetation to allow the monument to become more visible in the landscape. Using only hand-tools such as bowsaws and loppers, due to its protected status, it's arduous work often in wet and muddy conditions - especially in the ditch itself!

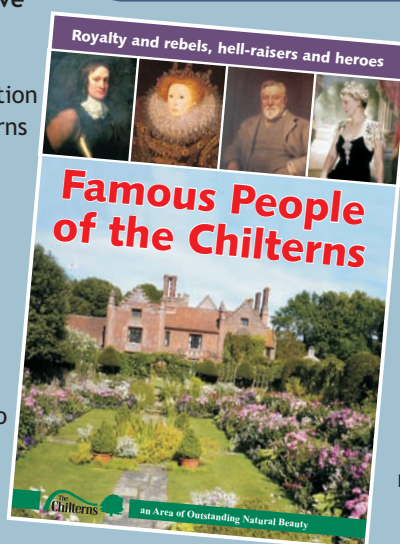
The volunteers are making steady progress removing vegetation and halting regeneration by hand-pulling seedlings and other ground flora. Several work parties are planned for this year, with the hopes of clearing Grim's Ditch entirely and implementing a management plan for the wood to maintain the Ditch to a favourable state, and ensure the volunteers' time and efforts do not go to waste.

If you are interested in helping care for local heritage, meeting new people and keeping fit, contact the Chiltern Society Volunteer Coordinator John Rennie on 07880 363546. To discuss the management of Scheduled Ancient Monuments on Forestry Commission land in the Chilterns, contact Recreation Ranger Colin Bradley on 07778 025 144.

**W**ould you like to find out more about the famous, and infamous, people who have made the Chilterns their home? The Chiltern Conservation Board's fascinating booklet *Famous People of the Chilterns* describes a selection of people who have been associated with the Chilterns over the centuries. It costs £2.99, and may be ordered from our website at [www.chilternsaonb.org/shop](http://www.chilternsaonb.org/shop) or by calling 01844 355 500.

Based on the characters mentioned in the book, and others from around the Chilterns, volunteers from the Chilterns Conservation Board offer illustrated Famous People of the Chilterns talks to local groups. From artists to aviators, poets to politicians, or hell-raisers to heroes the choice is yours.

## Historic celebrity gossip



The talks can be tailored to your locality and interests, or you can just leave it to the speakers. If your group would like to book a talk, please contact Claire Forrest on 01844 355 521 or [cforrest@chilternsaonb.org](mailto:cforrest@chilternsaonb.org)

Perhaps you enjoy public speaking and would like to join our team of volunteers, giving talks to local groups on different aspects of the Chilterns and its special qualities? If so, please contact Cathy Rose on 01844 355 506 or [crose@chilternsaonb.org](mailto:crose@chilternsaonb.org) Full training, materials and support will be provided.



# 6,000 years of Thame's archaeological history revealed

Chris Ellis, Senior Project Officer, Cotswold Archaeology

**E**xciting archaeological discoveries have revealed that people have lived in Thame for at least 6,000 years.

An excavation by Oxford Cotswold Archaeology (a joint venture between Oxford Archaeology and Cotswold Archaeology) was undertaken during 2015 ahead of the construction of a new housing development. It revealed a previously unknown Neolithic causewayed enclosure on the site of the former pig farm just off the Oxford Road, plus a large and complex area of Iron Age, Roman and Saxon archaeology on high ground on the south side of the River Thame valley.

Causewayed enclosures were the earliest known enclosures of open space and would have been built by some of the first farmers in c.3700-3600 BC. Only about 80 have been recorded in this country. The Thame example consists of distinctive, roughly concentric, segmented ditches and banks. There are three circuits of ditches: the outermost about 300m in diameter and the innermost about 200m diameter. Later, a henge monument (dating to c.3000 BC) was built inside the enclosure.

There is very little evidence of Bronze Age activity on the site - just a single Early Bronze Age barrow ring-ditch (c. 2400 - 1500 BC). Perhaps there was continued respect for the earlier Neolithic monuments, which created a taboo against digging or settling within it?

Activity increased again in the Iron Age, on slightly lower ground, away from the causewayed enclosure. A substantial ditched enclosure was created, along with three or more roundhouses, at least 150 pits (used initially for grain storage, and later for refuse) and some post-built structures that may have been granaries or ancillary settlement structures.

Some of the pits contained human and animal burials. One was rather unusual: at some point while a human corpse was only partly decomposed, the grave had been reopened and the torso was lifted, twisted 180°, and laid back down over an inverted pot and a sheep spine. Then, a horse skull - perhaps from the same animal as the headless horse skeleton buried in an adjacent pit - was placed on top.



*An unusually crowded grave*

By the Roman period, numerous trackways linked many overlapping settlement and stockade enclosures. At least two early Roman roundhouses were discovered, along with several fired clay ovens and stone-built corn drying ovens. Could the site have been a crop processing centre serving the local area?

A final major phase of activity took place in the 7th-8th century AD. At least 11 rectangular Saxon buildings were discovered, with a post at each end which would have supported a pitched timber roof. Loom weights, spindlewhorls, pin beaters, and bone needles found in the buildings suggest they were work spaces for textile production. In some cases lines of loom weights were found in-situ, indicating the exact position of the upright loom within the structure.

The finds from the dig, spanning 6,000 years of human activity, will be housed with the Oxford County Museum Service, and some may be displayed in Thame Museum in the future.

The project was a joint venture by Oxford Archaeology and Cotswold Archaeology in collaboration with Gerry Wait (Nexus Heritage), Richard Oram (Oxfordshire County Council) and Darren Pratt (Bloor Homes).



*The discovery of Saxon loom weights suggest textiles were woven here*

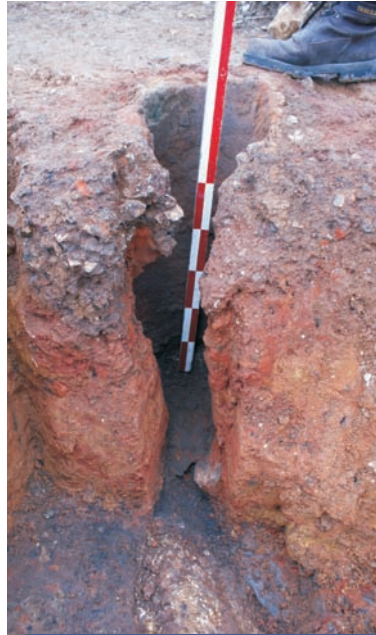
# Evidence of iron smelting found in Bradenham

Gary Marshall, National Trust Archaeologist

Recent archaeological excavations undertaken by the Princes Risborough Countryside Group on National Trust land at Bradenham have led to the discovery of a rare iron-smelting 'bloomery' or furnace. Very little is known about the Chilterns' iron industry but discoveries of dark glassy iron slag - the residue from the process - suggest that the industry was widespread and closely linked with the production of charcoal in local woodlands. Pottery associated with clusters of slag in the woods at Bradenham suggest a late Iron Age date for production but the use of this technology for iron production could have continued until the late Medieval period.

The Bradenham furnace was discovered after field-walking identified a cluster of slag fragments in a ploughed field. Subsequent geophysics located a magnetic anomaly. Opening up a small trench quickly revealed the top of a clay-lined furnace set within a metre deep pit set into the natural clay. The shaft extends to a depth of 0.7 metres and would originally have extended at least as far above ground. Alternate layers of iron ore and charcoal were fed into the top of the shaft

and the temperature within the furnace was raised by the use of leather bellows worked at the furnace's base. A temperature of up to 1,200°C could be attained - insufficient to melt the iron but enough to remove the slag and leave a spongy iron bloom



*The bloomery would have extended as far above ground as this shaft does below.*

which could then be re-worked to form iron implements. The clay lining appears to have been renewed on several occasions, implying the furnace was used for multiple firings. So far more than 150kg of slag has been recovered from the site, pointing to the relatively low efficiency of the smelting process which could yield perhaps 5-10% of the original iron content of the ore.

Radio carbon dating of samples of charcoal will hopefully provide a relatively accurate date for the Bradenham furnace. Several pieces of pottery recovered from the fill of the tapping pit in front of the furnace suggest a 1st-2nd century AD date.

So far only a single furnace has been discovered but there could be a cluster which remain to be discovered through further geophysics surveys. The National Trust are grateful to the tenant farmer for his co-operation in allowing the excavation to take place.

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# Historic views of Buckinghamshire

Melanie Czapski, Collections Officer,  
Bucks County Museum Trust

This spring, Bucks County Museum is delighted to host a display of historic views drawn from the rarely seen collections of the Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society. The free exhibition, which is open Tuesdays to Saturdays from 27th February to 2nd July 2016, is accompanied by a beautifully illustrated book 'Historic Views of Buckinghamshire' comprising fifty views of the county many of which feature in the display.

Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society (BAS) was founded in 1847 and is one of the oldest in the country. A leading light in the County in the fields of archaeology, architecture and local history, BAS also founded the County Museum in Aylesbury where the Society is still based.

BAS members have always had a strong affection for the old buildings and landscapes of Buckinghamshire and were instrumental in amassing a large collection of prints, drawings and paintings covering the whole of the old historic county from Milton Keynes in the north to Eton in the south. Visually attractive views from across the county have been selected for this show to illustrate themes such as historic houses and gardens, religious buildings, schools, townscapes and transport. The views chosen cover both familiar and less familiar locations and include buildings that have since been substantially altered or demolished.

One of the featured buildings is Boarstall Tower, the only medieval military building now left in Bucks. It was home to the Aubrey family in the 17th century where the writer, John Aubrey, was a regular visitor. His acclaimed book, *Brief Lives*, is a witty, gossipy and often scurrilous account of the lives and times of many distinguished characters including anecdotes from several notable Buckinghamshire residents. A selection of entertaining extracts from the book, interspersed with musical interludes from the times will be performed at the museum on Saturday 19th March at 2pm.

For further information please contact the museum.

Web: [www.buckscountymuseum.org](http://www.buckscountymuseum.org)

tel: 01296 331 441,

e-mail: [museum@buckscountymuseum.org](mailto:museum@buckscountymuseum.org)



Cliveden - drawn by I Donowell, published by R. Wilkinson, 1753



Hedsor Lodge - drawn by J Farington, engraved by JC Stadler, published by J&J Boydell, 1793



Marlow from the South

The images are reproduced by permission of Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society

# Historic church receives funding for roof repairs

Dr Sue Granger (Churchwarden)

**S**t Nicholas Church, Britwell Salome has recently received Government funding of £43,200 for essential roof repairs. It is one of three churches in the Chilterns that have successfully secured grants from the Government's Listed Places of Worship Roof Repair Fund to address urgent roof repairs that will ensure they are kept weather-tight, safe and open for use.

St Nicholas's is a beautiful, historic Grade II listed building and an important and active part of the small rural village of Britwell Salome. It was rebuilt in the 1860s on the site of a much older church and the majority of the current roof dates from that time.

Following significant falling of roof tiles during storms in 2014, the Parochial Church Council commissioned a detailed inspection of the roof which revealed extensive nail corrosion. The Victorian red clay roof tiles and softwood battens were no longer sufficiently well secured to the main roof structure; and it was only a matter of time before they would dislodge and



slip off. The potential for catastrophic damage to the roof, leaving the church interior open and vulnerable to weather damage prompted the PCC to apply for the grant.

All the relevant diocesan permissions are now in place, and significant community fundraising has been undertaken to raise the additional funds needed for this project, which will cost £84,000 in total. The proposed work includes stripping, re-battening and re-tiling the nave and chancel roofs of the church. The plan is to

carry out the work in spring 2016.

The Listed Places of Worship Roof Repair Fund is administered by the National Heritage Memorial Fund on behalf of the Department for Culture, Media & Sport. 502 grants were made from a total nationwide funding package of £30 million. Along with St Nicholas Church, Britwell Salome, St Mary's Church, Hitchin received £35,100; and St John the Baptist church in Little Missenden was granted £70,000. (see below).

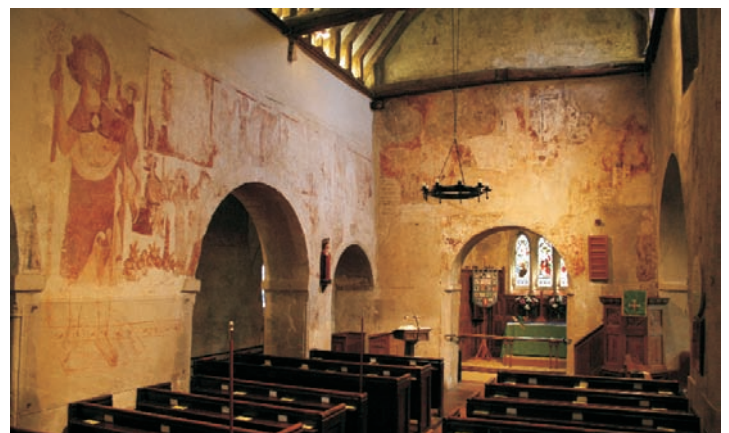
More details are available from [www.lpowroof.org.uk](http://www.lpowroof.org.uk)

## The writing's on the wall for Little Missenden Church

The Reverend John Simpson

**P**arishioners at St John the Baptist, Little Missenden, will be raising the roof of their ancient parish church this year, thanks to a £70,000 award from the Listed Places of Worship Roof Repair Fund. This vital work of securing the envelope of the building will form a prelude to the church's wider 'CHRISTopher Project', which takes its name from the prominent 13th century wall painting of St Christopher on the north wall of the nave. The project aims to complete a comprehensive programme of cleaning, lime-washing, remedial works, stabilisation of the medieval plaster, and conservation of the wall paintings, as well as investing in kitchen, toilets, office and meeting room facilities.

Conservator Dr Tobit Curteis, who surveyed the paintings some years ago, comments, "As a result of long term environmental conditions in the church and inappropriate previous treatments, the paintings have significantly deteriorated and in some areas are at risk of further loss. The proposed conservation treatment aims to stabilise the paintings and to improve their presentation in order to ensure their long-term conservation. The conservation treatment is to be undertaken as part of an integrated programme involving the repair of the building and the control of the internal environmental conditions."



The significance of the paintings was further reinforced by the Courtauld Institute of Art, who remarked, "...the wall paintings form an exceptional ensemble of work of different periods, and are certainly of national importance".

For more information about the CHRISTopher Project or the church, and how you may be able to help, please contact [office@lmchurch.org](mailto:office@lmchurch.org) or telephone 01494 862008. The church is open every day.

# Orchard discovered at Dunstable's Dominican Friary

Barry Horne (Manshead Archaeology Society)

The Chilterns has a long history of fruit growing, with the Totternhoe area of Bedfordshire being particularly noted for Aylesbury prune (damson) orchards in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Research by a local archaeological society has now revealed that fruit growing in Bedfordshire goes back much further.

Many of us are familiar with Dunstable's Priory Church which is all that remains of the Augustinian Priory. Fewer are aware that Dunstable once had a Dominican Friary as well. When the Friary was closed in 1538 it was recorded as having a 'Great Orchard'. Over 400 years later, the Manshead Archaeological Society found the remains of this amazing creation.

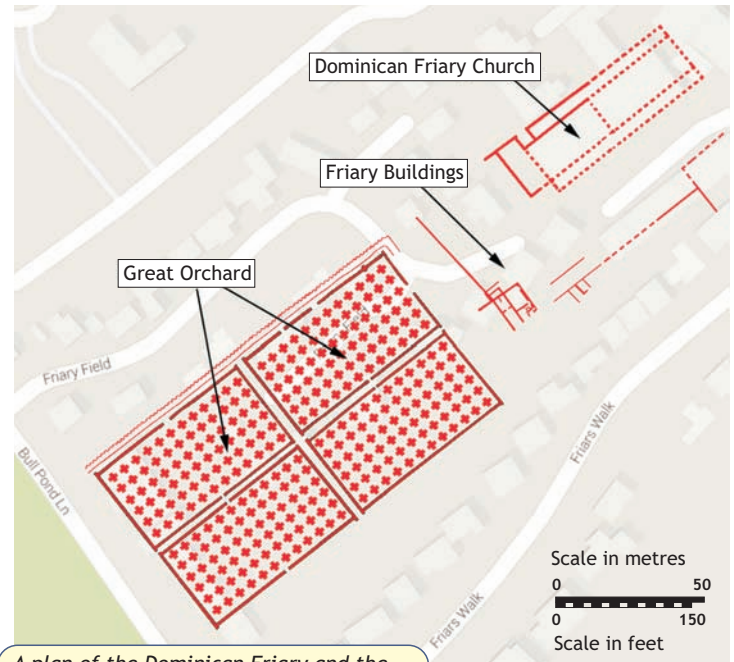
Quite unlike anything else ever discovered it consisted of 288 cross-shaped holes dug into the chalk where the trees were planted. The crosses were 11 feet across and set out in four areas.

Garden expert, Brian Dix, observes that planting in rows was a common practice at this time but that the cross-shaped holes are so far without equal.

Underlying part of the area is a Roman cemetery and he suggests this may have influenced the choice of shape.

It is likely that apples were the most important crop. These would have been for eating as well as for generating income in the town market. They would also have been for the production of cider to supplement the usual ale that was drunk because the water was not safe.

The design of the orchard at Dunstable offered opportunities for contemplation and devotion by the Friars. Along the northern side of the area runs a structure which the excavators called the 'buttress trench' because of the cut-outs along one side. The deepest part was flat bottomed and Brian Dix suggests it was similar to the 'close walk' with which Sir Thomas



A plan of the Dominican Friary and the Great Orchard superimposed on a modern map of Dunstable. (David Hornby)



A painting showing part of the Great Orchard with the Friary Church in the background. (Vanessa Hornby)



A painting showing what the buttress trench (close walk) may have looked like. (Vanessa Hornby)

Tresham surrounded the gardens of his new lodge at Lyveden, Northants in the late 16th century.

Sadly, nowadays nothing can be seen of this unique structure but two modern illustrations give a flavour of how it may have looked in the 16th century.

## History and archaeology events 2016

Thursday 18th February, 1.30pm

Talk: *I have a Plan!*

Flitwick Library, Coniston Road, Flitwick MK45 1QJ  
Architectural drawings can tell us more about our world than the buildings that survive. Come and explore a world that was and a world that might have been.

Cost: £2. To book call 0300 300 8057

Thursday 25th February, 1.30pm

Talk: *Law & Order*

Flitwick Library, Coniston Road, Flitwick MK45 1QJ  
Wasn't the past a happy place where everyone left their doors unlocked? Come and see if this myth holds up as we examine the records of the criminals and crimestoppers.

Cost: £2. To book call 0300 300 8057

# Earth Explorers arrive at College Lake

Kate Sheard (BBOWT)

**D**uring 2016 the Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) is developing Earth Explorers, a new and exciting project to give visitors to College Lake nature reserve at the foot of the Chiltern Hills a deeper understanding of the site's prehistory, geological mysteries and farming traditions.

College Lake was a thriving farm before it became a chalk quarry, and BBOWT has managed the site since the quarrying stopped in the 1980s. Nature has returned in abundance with more than 1,000 species living in the wetland, meadow, woodland and traditional cornfield habitats. Earth Explorers will combine the site's agricultural history with amazing fossils and exceptional wildlife.

College Lake is a Geological SSSI due to the outstanding glacial, periglacial and chalk formations, many of which were exposed as the quarrying went deeper into the chalk, revealing fossilised woolly mammoth tusks, ammonites and sharks teeth. More than 3,500 schoolchildren visit College Lake every year, and for the past 12 months they've enjoyed Geology Rocks sessions, learning how fossils are created and then discovered.

BBOWT has received a grant of £74,100 from the Heritage Lottery Fund to develop Earth Explorers, and Christopher Williams, head of conservation and education for Buckinghamshire is looking forward to the project starting early in 2016.

"For the last 30 years we've collected fossils and specimens from the chalk, and now we will be able to display these and



*Geology Rocks! Children discovering how fossils are made. (Mike Iseard)*

use them in our education work. We also have an impressive collection of historic tools and agricultural equipment which will form part of the exhibition. New interpretation displays will help visitors gain a better understanding of the ways the land was cultivated in the past."

Visitors to College Lake Visitor Centre during the spring and summer will be able to see the Earth Explorers displays and exhibition take shape. Find out more about College Lake: [bbowt.org.uk/collegelake](http://bbowt.org.uk/collegelake)

## History and archaeology events 2016

25 February, 7pm - 8pm

**Talk: To Make a Museum: The Fulfilment of Walter's Ambition**  
At The Natural History Museum, Akeman Street, Tring, Herts, HP23 6AP.

Local historian Tim Amsden, who is working on a biography of the architect William Huckvale (1848-1936), considers the design and construction of Walter Rothschild's Museum at Tring. Tickets £4.50 (advance booking required), most suitable for adults. Call 0207 942 6163 to book.

27 February, 10.30am -12.30pm

**Walk: History of Tring Park**

Join the Woodland Trust for a guided walk on the unique history of Tring Park. With links to King Charles II, Charles Bridgeman and Walter Rothschild, its rich and varied story will unfold on your journey.

Meet at the Natural History Museum, Akeman Street, Tring, Herts, HP23 6AP

Free (advance booking required), most suitable for adults. Call 0207 942 6163 to book

27 February - 2 July

**Exhibition: Historic Views of Buckinghamshire**

Georgian Room at Bucks County Museum, Aylesbury HP20 2QP  
A rare opportunity to see prints and drawings illustrating the County's historic architecture and landscapes collected by the Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society. Includes both familiar locations and those which are less well known or which have been substantially altered or disappeared completely. Open Tuesday - Saturday. Free entry. See [www.buckscountymuseum.org](http://www.buckscountymuseum.org) for more information.

Thursday 3rd March, 1.30pm

**Talk: Poor Laws; Old and New**

Flitwick Library, Coniston Road, Flitwick MK45 1QJ

Before the modern welfare state, the poor and needy relied on the poor laws to provide for them. Just what help could they expect and how was it delivered?

Cost: £2. To book call 0300 300 8057

# History and archaeology events 2016

**Sunday 6th March, 4pm - 6pm**

**Walk: Battle of Berkhamsted Common**

Lord Brownlow, the 3rd Earl of Bridgewater once tried to enclose Berkhamsted Common and prevent the commoners from grazing their livestock. Walk the perimeter of an area of the common once enclosed with iron railings.

Adults £15, children £10. Ticket price includes mulled wine and hot snacks. Call 01442 851 227 to book

**Wednesday 9th March, 8pm**

**Berkhamsted Local History & Museum Society AGM, followed by a talk: 'From Business College to Monastery, the Story of Ashridge House.'**

Wellcome Great Hall, Berkhamsted Town Hall.

Join Society member Ken Wallis to learn more about the fascinating history of Ashridge House.

Berkhamsted Local History & Museum Society Members are FREE. Visitors £2.50 at door.

**Thursday 10th March, 1.30pm**

**Isn't it all online?**

Flitwick Library, Coniston Road, Flitwick MK45 1QJ

While researching from the comfort of home has much to be said for it, there is more to be uncovered if you venture out. Discover why some material can be accessed online and why some cannot and may require a visit to a record office.

Cost: £2. To book call 0300 300 8057

**Friday 11th March, 10.30am to 4pm**

**Woodland Archaeology Training Course**

Location: Pigotts Wood, North Dean, Bucks, HP14 4NF (about 4 miles north of High Wycombe, on the road to Speen from Hughenden Valley). Grid ref SU 853990.

This popular one day course with John Morris of the Chiltern Woodlands Project will delve into the rich and fascinating history found in the woods of the Chilterns. Includes an indoor illustrated talk, a chance to look at some old maps, and a guided walk around ancient Pigotts Wood to look at sawpits, charcoal hearths, lynchets, boundary banks, an iron bloomery and stone and chalk quarries.

Please bring strong footwear and warm / wet weather clothing, plus a packed lunch. Tea and coffee provided.

Cost: £35 per person. Call 01844 355503 or email [woodlands@chilternsaonb.org](mailto:woodlands@chilternsaonb.org) to book

**Saturday 12th March, 10.30am to 4pm**

**Woodland Archaeology Course**

Repeat of the course above

**Wednesday 16th March, 8pm**

**Harry Kirby Memorial Lecture: Buckinghamshire in the Great War**

Hedgerley Memorial Hall, Kiln Lane Hedgerley SL2 3UZ.

Hedgerley Historical Society welcomes Professor Ian Beckett for an illustrated talk focusing on the county's response to the war and the impact on the local community; dealing with aspects such as recruitment, war work, the role of women and children, and commemoration. Ian retired as Professor of Military History at the University of Kent in 2015.

Members free, visitors £4. Further details from John Lovelock 01753-647187, [jdlovelock@btinternet.com](mailto:jdlovelock@btinternet.com)

**Saturday 19 March, 2-4pm**

**Concert: John Aubrey - Brief Lives**

Bucks County Museum, Aylesbury HP20 2QP

A selection of entertaining extracts from 17th century writer and scholar John Aubrey's book of Brief Lives interspersed with musical interludes from the times. Performed by Alan Hamilton and Zachary Taylor, accompanied by the Galliard Recorder Band.

Brief Lives is a witty, gossipy and often scurrilous account of the lives and times of many distinguished characters, including Edmund Waller of Beaconsfield and John Milton of Chalfont St Giles, and national figures such as William Shakespeare and Sir Walter Raleigh.

Tickets £10.00 per person. Booking essential on [museum@buckscountymuseum.org](mailto:museum@buckscountymuseum.org) or 01296 331441. See [www.buckscountymuseum.org](http://www.buckscountymuseum.org) for more information.



**Saturday 2nd April, 11am - 1pm**

**Walk: Wallingford Castle History**

Back by popular demand, this walk around the grounds of Wallingford Castle is led by Judy Dewey (local historian and Museum curator).

Meet at Wallingford Museum, £6 per person. Not suitable for dogs.

For more information, call 01491 651127 or visit [www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk](http://www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk)

**Saturday 2nd April, 2.30pm - 4.30pm**

**Walk: Wallingford Town History**

This popular walk around Wallingford is led by Judy Dewey (local historian and Museum curator).

Meet at Wallingford Museum, £6 per person. Not suitable for dogs.

For more information, call 01491 651127 or visit [www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk](http://www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk)

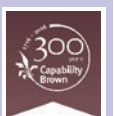
**Wednesday 6th April, 10am - 4.30pm**

**Luton Hoo Estate and Bedfordshire Gardens Trust Study Day: A Capability Brown Walled Garden**

Luton Hoo Estate Walled Garden, Luton, Bedfordshire LU1 4LF

In the 1760s, John Stuart, 3rd Earl of Bute, turned to Lancelot 'Capability' Brown to combine the 300-acre Luton Park and a further 900 acres of surrounding land into a landscape park of distinction. Set in the context of his work on the wider estate, the study day will look at the creation and unusual orientation of the walled garden, where Lord Bute kept his noted botanical collection. Includes a tour of the walled garden with particular reference to the Brown features.

Cost: £35 (including refreshments). For further information and to request a booking form please email: [info@lhwg.org.uk](mailto:info@lhwg.org.uk) or call 01582 721443



# History and archaeology events 2016

Wednesday 20th April, 8pm

## Hedgerley Historical Society AGM, followed by talk: Buckinghamshire's Great Houses - an Architectural Tour

Hedgerley Memorial Hall, Kiln Lane Hedgerley SL2 3UZ  
Nearly every parish has its manor house, enlarged and embellished by successive lords of the manor, to assert power over their tenants and advertise their wealth. Some, like the Grenville's of Stowe and the Dashwoods of High Wycombe, used their great houses and gardens as statements of their power on the national stage. Julian Hunt, a free-lance researcher, lecturer and writer, draws on over 25 years of study of Buckinghamshire, to present an entertaining but light-hearted account of these pretentious householders.

Members free, visitors £4. Further details from John Lovelock 01753-647187, [jdlovelock@btinternet.com](mailto:jdlovelock@btinternet.com)



Buckinghamshire's Great Houses -  
West Wycombe

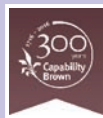
10th May, 7.45 for an 8pm start

## Talk: Capability Brown at Chalfont Park

Part of the Chalfont St Giles and Jordans Literary Festival 2016

Chalfont St Giles Memorial Hall, School Lane HP8 4JJ  
Dr Sarah Rutherford and Claire de Carle present a talk on Capability Brown and Chalfont Park. Sarah will introduce her book, *Discovering Brown and his World*: following in his footsteps throughout England and Wales, investigating his family places, letters, plans and design drawings. Claire will examine Brown's influence on the landscape of Chalfont Park and compare it to other local sites where he is known to have worked. Paintings by Turner and Girtin and photographs which show the development during the nineteenth and early twentieth century.

Cost: TBC. To book please call 01494 873 966 (11am - 8pm).



Saturday 14th May, 10am

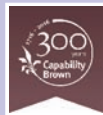
## Walk: Capability Brown at Chalfont Park

Part of the Chalfont St Giles and Jordans Literary Festival 2016

Meet at Citrix Ltd Car Park, Chalfont Park House, Chalfont Park, Chalfont St. Peter, Bucks SL9 0DZ

During the walk we shall look at where the entrances and approaches were located, the designed views, the pleasure grounds and park, and the planting, including significant trees, the principle buildings - house and stable block and Lutyens cottages. The features will be explained with the use of OS maps, plans and photographs which will help us locate key features and illustrate how magnificent the gardens once looked.

Cost: TBC. To book please call 01494 873 966 (11am - 8pm).



## contact details

This newsletter has been produced by the Chilterns Conservation Board.

For further information please contact:

The Chilterns Conservation Board, The Lodge, 90 Station Road  
Chinnor OX39 4HA Tel: 01844 355500  
email: [office@chilternsaonb.org](mailto:office@chilternsaonb.org)

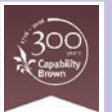


Sunday 29th May, 10.30am - 5pm

## Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust Seminar: 50 Shades of (Lancelot) Brown

Wotton House, Wotton Underwood, Aylesbury, HP18 0SB  
Main speakers will be Richard Wheeler, national specialist in garden history for the National Trust, and Dr Sarah Rutherford, who is currently researching a new book on Lancelot 'Capability' Brown for the National Trust. There will also be presentations on some of the twenty Brown designed sites in Bucks (16 confirmed), currently being researched by Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust members. Concludes with a walk around the little known, but stunning, landscape at Wotton.

Cost: TBC. More information at [www.bucksgardenstrust.org.uk](http://www.bucksgardenstrust.org.uk)



Saturday 23rd July, 10am - 4pm

## Buckinghamshire Family History Society Open Day

The Grange School, Wendover Way, Aylesbury, HP21 7NH.  
Discover the Society's research facilities, including its Buckinghamshire names database. Let us help you find that elusive ancestor. Parish register transcripts and other publications will be for sale. Come along for expert advice; guest societies from around the country, local heritage groups and suppliers of data CDs, maps, software, archival materials and more.

Admission and parking are free. Tea and coffee will be available. See [www.bucksfhs.org.uk](http://www.bucksfhs.org.uk) for more information.

Friday 5th to Sunday 7th August

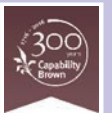
## The Life and Work of Lancelot 'Capability' Brown (1716-1783)

Ashridge Garden History Summer School in association with The National Trust

Ashridge House, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, HP4 1NS  
A series of lectures that will cover Lancelot 'Capability' Brown's life, work, planting and his impact on landscape gardens in Britain. Includes a series of visits to study gardens and parks where Brown undertook commissions.

Lecturers and guides to gardens will include Richard Wheeler, David Adshear, John Phibb, Dr. Sarah Rutherford and Mick Thompson. Gardens visited will include Croome Park, Wotton House, Stowe Landscape Gardens and the Ashridge Gardens and Park.

Cost: £450. To book, contact Sally Rouse. 01442 841028 or [sally.rouse@ashridge.hult.edu](mailto:sally.rouse@ashridge.hult.edu)



This newsletter can be downloaded from:

[www.chilternsaonb.org/newsletters](http://www.chilternsaonb.org/newsletters)