Issue 9

The Newsletter of the Portchester Civic Society (Founded 2000)

Autumn 2011

A New Centre for the Community



by Paul Woodman

After several setbacks with the old building, including the closure of the upper floors due to safety problems, Portchester will soon be the proud owners of a brand new Community Centre. With a total funding of £2 million from Fareham Borough Council and Hampshire County Council, work is expected to be completed by September next year.

A public consultation was held at the Community Centre in June with plans on display and representatives on hand to discuss the aspects of the new building. Over 200 residents attended and the majority were in favour of the design.

Once the new building is completed the old structure will be taken down and its site put back to green space.

Our local Neighbourhood Police will have a small room, accessible from the outside when the centre is closed, which will be a reassurance in safeguarding the building and dealing with unsociable behaviour in the vicinity. The layout of the interior of the building is designed to be flexible with insulated divider panels to increase or decrease room sizes.

Some have expressed concern about the size and capability of the building but the budget is limited to £2m and, as we all know, costs rise very quickly nowadays so work must commence as soon as possible. The building does have the capability to be enlarged in the future if further funds become available.

The Portchester Civic Society was instrumental in the building of a new Parish Hall at the beginning of this century and although contentious at the time it has proved to be a great success, with regular bookings from a wide variety

of organisations and individuals ensuring its financial stability, something the old hall always suffered problems with. We hope that with a modern building under strong management the new Community Centre will be equally successful.

In addition to the funding acquired for the new Community Centre, other Portchester projects have also received good news recently.

AFC Portchester opened their new clubhouse in March this year. Fareham Borough Council is in the process of putting together a bid to the Football Foundation for funding new changing rooms at the club, to replace the present dilapidated facilities at their Wicor grounds.

The 3rd Portchester Scouts 'Cobham Hall' in White Hart Lane now has a new roof having themselves raised half of the £25,588 cost. They have been granted a further 25% from Fareham Borough Council's Community Fund.

Chairman's Letter

So, what has happened during the past year? Taking you back to 2010 we decided not to have a Christmas event but to have a Spring lunch, which took place on Sunday 6th March. What fun we had! It was a beautiful sunny spring day and, with the help of a few of our members, we cooked and served a very enjoyable lunch followed by an auction of not only Portchester memorabilia but also a few flowers, bulbs and polyanthus kindly donated by a local wholesaler. 'Bernie the Auctioneer' was a true sport and raised a lot of money for the Society. As this was so successful we will be holding a similar event on Tuesday 13th December, our December meeting date, with a two-course supper and a

Christmas auction. Tickets are £14 and members are welcome to bring quests. (Please see the advert in this newsletter).

Our annual photographic exhibition in the fover of the Library/Health Centre was held a little later this year at the beginning of June. As it was held during half term it was much guieter than usual. I guess a lot of people were away on holidav.

Then came the Gala accompanied by very strong winds and heavy rain however we did see a little bit of the sun and had a lot of visitors to our stand for a short while.

Jonathan and Carolyn Tannock have taken over organising our visits and the first was a Sunday afternoon walk around Woodham Medieval Village in Gosport. The second was a coach trip to view the new Olympic Stadiums in London. Unfortunately Paul and I were unable to go due to work but all those who went commented that it was a wonderful day out.

During Heritage Open Days Bryan Jerrard again took groups along Castle Street. Another extremely informative and humorous weekend with a good turnout, especially on Sunday when the weather was kinder.

Beachwatch, also in September, saw members and volunteers this year cleaning a different part of the shoreline at the bottom of Hospital Lane. I'm pleased to announce that it was the cleanest we have ever seen the beach.

We are now preparing for our 'Memories of Portchester' exhibition to be held in the Parish Hall on Saturday 12th November from 10am to 4.30pm. Please come along and see the remarkable collection of photographs, paintings and memorabilia we have collected. There's also tea, coffee and homemade cakes!

I would like to congratulate AFC Portchester on being awarded The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service 2011. As one of only six awarded in Hampshire this year we are very proud of our local club. Our Society donated £1,000 to the club's floodlighting appeal from part of the proceeds of sales of our Oral History Book.

With Julia now retired from planning, though always there for me if I need advice, I have taken a more active role in the planning and we are now regularly commenting on applications of interest that affect Portchester with my Committee's support. Please see the Planning section in this newsletter. I am looking for someone to attend Council Planning meetings and report back to me. The meetings take place once a month at 2.30pm on a Wednesday. If you are interested please contact me.

Before I close I would like to pay tribute to a lovely lady, Ruby Plowman, who died recently. Over many years she has been very active in Portchester and was a member of our Society. I first met Ruby when we were interviewing for our book, "Portchester in Living Memory'. Ruby had a wealth of memories including being crowned May Queen in the Castle and we have some wonderful pictures from that time which Ruby and lan donated. Ian is always a great help to Paul, assisting with photographs and setting up our exhibitions.

Hazel Woodman - Chairman

Olympic Visit

by Jonathan Tannock

With the Olympics less than a year away, members of the Portchester Civic Society took the opportunity to spend Monday 5th September visiting London's Olympic Village.

We arrived at Stratford in our Vision Travel coach to be met by our Blue Badge Guide, who took us for coffee at a local pub. We were then taken by road around the 'Village' where she pointed out the various sights with an informative and witty commentary. Disembarking from the coach she led us for a short walk to the 'View Tube', the observation point overlooking the stadiums. Continuing her commentary she pointed out the swimming and diving pools, the running and field events area, the basketball arena and the velodrome. We had a great view of the Orbit sculpture that is due to be topped out and finished by the end of the month. It is certainly a striking piece of modern art, steel piping painted red and known locally as the Helter Skelter!

London was awarded the Olympics over the Paris bid as we have a plan to reuse the whole area after the event. The buildings will continue to be used for sporting events; the athletics stadium will become the new home for West

Ham football club and the athletes village will be turned into housing, after the party walls are removed in the flats and kitchens installed.



On rejoining the coach we went back to Ye Old Black Bull at Stratford for a very tasty roast beef lunch. Our day trip continued with a voyage on the Woolwich ferry and a tour around this historically rich area where the Olympic rifle, pistol and archery competitions will be held. The coach then dropped us off at the Woolwich Arsenal buildings and we took the opportunity to take a walk alongside the Thames and have a cup of tea at the Firepower Museum café. It was then back on the coach for a trip around South London before heading back down the A3 to Portchester.

What a difference the new Hindhead Tunnel makes! Four minutes going through instead of the long wait to get round the Devil's Punchbowl. Everyone agreed that we had a very entertaining day out.

Thanks to Carolyn and Jonathan for organising such a successful day out Editor.



The Sound of Ball on Willow to Return

by David Williams

After an absence of sixteen years the sight of a game of cricket being played in the grounds of Portchester Castle is to be a new enjoyment for residents and visiting tourist. Portchester Cricket Club's third team are to play their Regional South East 4 Hampshire League fixtures starting on Saturdays in May 2012. Matches are due to start at 2pm and will go on until early evening.

Although the senior sides will continue to play their fixtures at Cams School this move heralds the Club's return to its roots. The Club started playing within the grounds in the early days of the last century and its return will stir many memories of the feats and players over those many years. Throughout, the Club usually played friendly fixtures on Saturdays and Wednesday evenings whilst on Whit Monday there was the traditional all-day fixture. A good crowd was always in attendance, sitting allround the boundary's edge, whilst on Whit Mondays the green by the Keep was a popular spot for those who had brought their lunch. The Club did very well financially as a collection was always taken. Being a popular venue most games were at home although the Club did occasionally play away. There were a few Sunday away fixtures.

A former member, who played for the Club in the early 1950s, recalls joining on leaving school having been invited by Gerry Durant, the captain. Most players lived locally and came from every walk of life. These included the landlord of The Cormorant, the manager of NatWest Bank, active and retired military



Portchester Cricket XI - 1953 Season

personnel, the Vicar of St. Mary's and a schoolteacher. The Vicar was well known for arriving straight from officiating at a wedding in the Church. He would clamber over the church wall, straight from the vestry, to avoid the wedding party at the lych-gate. The Club had a big hitting batsman. He scored a high majority of his runs in boundaries and was a natural and prolific wicket-taking bowler. He regularly hit sixes into the creek, much to the delight of the young boys who were rewarded for each ball retrieved. On one occasion he was known to have hit a six that cleared the Church roof. The most famous member at one time was Jack Froggatt, the England and Portsmouth soccer player. Changing facilities for both teams were housed in the battlement by the land gate. The visiting team used the lower section, which also housed the groundsman equipment whilst Portchester had the luxury of the upstairs section. There was no running water or electricity. Interval teas were served on a trestle table nearby.

The return to the Castle at some stage has always been the Club's intention. Charles Jordan, a former Club Chairman, has proven to be the driving force to make the return. After many years of negotiation with English Heritage a leasing agreement has been approved for 2012. Residents will have noticed that work to carry out the re-establishment of the square has been ongoing for many months. The Hampshire League has undertaken a ground inspection and on the 1st October they approved that cricket could be played there next season. So the hard work will continue most weekends to return the square to its former glory. The venture has been well supported. The 3rd Portchester Sea Scouts are allowing the teams to use their changing facilities whilst the Rev. Charlie Allen has invited them to utilise the St. Mary's Church Tea Room for refreshment between innings. In addition the Club has been encouraged by the positive comments from locals hearing of this return to the Castle.

The Club provides a variety of cricket for all ages. It currently has two XIs in the Hampshire League on Saturdays, a Sunday friendly XI and colts cricket for the U11s and U13s. It is keen to work in the community to improve facilities for the young people in the area. New members are always welcome and net practice sessions commence in January. The Club has a website at www. portchester.play-cricket.com providing full details of the Club and its history.

Shopping Around

by Paul Woodman

Portchester in the last century grew from a small village of around 900 inhabitants in 1900 to approximately 17,000 by 2001.

The way we shop has changed considerably during that period and this selection of advertisements reflects the wide variety of businesses around Portchester. Most of these were family owned individual shops catering for

the local neighbourhood. Today we probably take our car to do our main shopping at one of the big supermarkets or large specialist stores, often in large retail parks outside of the town centres. We might shop in Fareham, still within walking distance or a short ride on the bus, but many of us travel further afield to say Portsmouth, Chichester or Southampton. Until car ownership became more common, for the majority most purchases were made within walking distance of your home. This led to a wide variety of stores opening

in West Street, Castle Street and White Hart Lane around the 1930s onwards when Portchester's new housing began to boom. Growing up in Portchester after the Second World War, my wife Hazel recollects in our book 'Portchester in Living Memory' being able to shop for almost all of the family's needs, from food to clothing, just in White Hart Lane.

These advertisements have been gathered from various sources including copies of the Parish Magazine from the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s.

J. J. ROGERS & SON,

Builder and Contractor,

20 Castle Street.

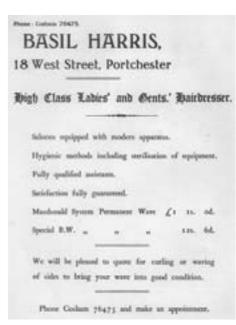


Stevens Fish and Chip shop on last day before demolition - Saturday 7th December 1968



R Wheeler & Son bakers







H.WORLEY'S GARAGE C. LONG & 50N. Bakers and Grocers. MOTOR ENGINEERS Castle Street, Parishesis CARS FOR HIRE. MEAD win CRISP CRUST PLRYOUS MOSTURE BAKED will WOOD Lord Cakes a Specialty J. SARGANT. H. A. STURGESS, FAMILY BUTCHER, Howtown, Pertobesi Terpor of English & Colonial Mout at Course Possible Prices. WOLSEY WOOLS B. CRAGGS, West Stores, West St. Stood Library. W. La ROOY, Hairdresse 85 West Street,

The Sweet Box on West Street c1968

A. E. HAYTER & SONS, | HORACE S. WOODS Motor & Cycle Engineers, West Mirred, Parish Electrical Fittings. Mr. A. Biopela (Male No a Go Balaigh (The All Soul Steph) Att. School of Steph) 1, Guatle Street, Portchester N. M. BARTLETT. The Dampohire & General Friendly Societe Flower Gardena, Portchester WORK LIFE SHIPSONE SHIPSONE STATES CUT FLOWERS Device the London And Parking And Parking of Law Street St JOYAL PORTCHESTER LODGE M.U. 000 FELLOWS. Name about the Publisher, Street or other publishers

Street in charge on Lawrence

Reliable Saloon Car for Hire Apply-PHILIP MEXTYAND, 39 East Moost, Particlesies

YOU GET BETTER VALUE at PINKS' The Family Grocers.

42. West Street, Portchester. Tel. 76658.

VISIT Marlyns Cash Stores, WHITE HART LANE, For Groceries, Confectionery,

Cigarettes, Wools & General Drapery.



Portchester Tea Rooms on the south side of East Street



Looking east from Hayters Garage. Stevens Fish shop behind the wall with the Meatyards advert c1968

Fairway Stores, WEST STREET, PORTCHESTER For Confectionery, Tobacco, Minerals.

ICES in Season.

L. B. BRUDENELL, Family Butcher, Purpepor of English and Imported IReat. 3 Nelson View,

Phone 76604.

A. E. HAYTER & SONS, Motor Engineers,

Authorised MORRIS Dealers, Sales and Service. We Use the VAN-NORMAN Perfector Boring Bar to Re-bore Cylinders. Break Down Ambulance Always Available. High Pressure Car Washing

CASTROL LUBREQUIPMENT SERVICE.

Best quality only.

West Street, Portchester.

Your Chemist.

G. G. RULE, M.P.S.

Any Make of Car Supplied.

All Electric Service Station.

White Hart Lane.

44 West Street, Portchester-

Dispensing and Family Chemist and Photographia Jealer.

Open Wednesday and Sunday Evenings 6.e-8.e p m.



The crossroads with a Southdown bus emerging from Castle Street c1960



West Street looking east in the 1960s

Telephone: Conham 76024. The Bow-Wow Boarding Kennels & Nursing Home

NELSON ROAD, PORTCHESTER. DOGS & CATS BOARDED CAN BE FETCHED AND RETURNED AT ANY TIME TO SUIT OWNER. Stripping, Trimming, Whelping, Numing, Bathing, etc. Carefully attended to by experienced Nursing Staff. BOARDING: DOGS from 7/6 weekly. CATS from 51- weekly.

Phone 70291 Cocham.

W. Hayter & Sons, 98-100 West Street, Portchester.

CARPENTERS & DECORATORS. Repairs to House Properties.

Funerals Completely Furnished. Cremations Arranged.

High-class Grocery & Provision Stores Confectioner and Tobacconist.

H. F. CLAY, Fairhome Stores, White Hart Lane, Portchester, Hants.

For MEDICAL, SURGICAL

National Health Service

Complete Optical Service

TOBLET REQUISITES. EVERYTHING FOR BABY.

For Wreaths, Grosses. Your Chemist Presentation Flowers

R. H. ASCOTT, Florist, " Kent Villa." 157 White Bart Cane,

E. C. SLEEP. M.P.S., D.OPT. 44 West Street, Tel., 76404 Portchester. \$4 White Bart Lane .. 78988. The Flowers are Fresh. PORTCHESTER, The Prices are Moderate.

GEO, T. CROUCH, Photographer

Welling Photographs at Church or Reception. Social Posterion, Parties Theorytics, etc. 1908 CLASS WORK. ADDICATE TERMS. Phone Coulom 1979.

138. The Crossway, Portchester.

21 WEST STREET, PORTCHESTER.

J. B. COLE.

High-class

Fruiterer & Greengrocer.

H.T. and T.T. Milk.

PEARCE'S DAIRY. 76 West Street, Portchester.

Licenced by M. of P. to process and bottle milk.

F. Brown & Son

74 West Street, Portchester 273 New Road, Portsmouth For Expert Repairs Watch, Clock, Jewellery. Phone 75431

Purveyors of Clean, Safe, For Finest Quality Seeds, Fertilisers, . . .

Poultry Foods, etc.

W. & D. Hayes, Seedsmen,

121 WEST STREET. PORTCHESTER.

Agents for: Erringtons" Vitamin "E" Poultry Meal (non-rationed)

L. H. LUNN, Lansdown Stores,

WICOR PATH, end of Neville Avenue. Grocer, Confectionery and Tobacconist. All Daily Necessities



J. TATFORD Family Butcher

Best Quality Meat at reasonable prices . Frigidaire Electrical Cold Storage . Careful personal attention given to all orders

WEST STREET, PORTCHESTER

Telephone-Cosham 76149.

E. J. PONTING. Coal, Coke and Wood Merchant.

Deliveries in the District DAILY.

Orders at West Street, Portchester and at East Cams, Portchester Rd., Fareham. PROMPT DELIVERY.

Telephone Cosham 75303.

E. M. HAYWARD, The Stores, 119 White Hart Lane, Portchester. **Grocery Provisions Tobacco**

Fruit & Vegetables Fresh Supplies daily. Orders delivered to all districts.

R. N. GUY, M.P.S. | A E. HAVTER & SONS Dispensing and Photographic Chemist

National Health & Private Dispensing Invalid Requisites TolletSpecialities. Kodak and all Photographic Supplies. Developing, Printing, Enlarging and

4 West St. Portchester

C. OSBORNE, 265 White Hart Lane,

Portchester.

Timber Merchant. HARDWARE, PAINTS AND DISTEMPERS.

AND DISTEMPERS.

trical Requisites and all Building
Materials Keys cut.

mediate delivery of Sand, Ballast,
and Coment, etc.

West Street, Portchester. RADIO AND CYCLE Sales and Service.

Your Dealer for B.S.A., Raleigh, Phillips, Ekco, Pye, Cossor. Easy Terms Available.

Bring Your **BOOK TOKENS** BOOK PROBLEMS

F. G. WARE,

Bookseller, 60 White Hart Lane, Portchester.

Close to the Castle Entrance.

TEAS T Castle Cottage, Portchester 2-30 to 6 pm.

Home-made

April to September inclusive.

BROWN'S

Noted for Expert Watch, Clock, Jewellery & Optical REPAIRS.

Agents for Service & Carbel Watches.

NOTE ADDRESSES: 74 West Street, Portchester 273 New Road, Portsmouth CLOCK REPAIRS COLLECTED ALL DISTRICTS. WORKMANSHIP RIGHT. CHARGES LIGHT.

A Medieval Village in Gosport



by Bernie Lendon

On a fine sunny afternoon, on the last Sunday in July, we aspired to step back in time and a group from the Portchester Civic Society headed for the bygone age of Little Woodham Medieval Village. What a little gem this tranguil spot is, tucked away behind the sprawling estates of Rowner. Upon our arrival we were cordially greeted by the reception staff, who pointed out all

the points of interest, and off we set on our wander back through time. A step back it certainly was as whenever you engaged in conversation you were addressed in the vocabulary of medieval times and there were "master's, mistress's and squire's" being bantered around all afternoon. The Inn was a centre of attraction, as the landlord was preparing the days meal for the village inhabitant's, and we were informed the village pig was finally on his way to the table in the form of sausages. The items and samples that were on display were

informative and gave one a sense of the period, with bowls of various ingredients on display, but unfortunately the very tasty looking ale was not for tasting - health and safety raises it's head yet again even in Medieval times. There's an exception to this, which is if you visit on Mayday a tipple is permissible – one may have to investigate further!

These two ladies (pictured left) were industrially making string, although the process looked somewhat complicated. Still in Medieval times one did not have the distractions of TV or computers and time was not the issue, as it seems to be these days.

There were plenty more examples of different skills from the Medieval times, such as carpentry, seamstress, wool making, embroidery and herbal concoctions, to mention just a few of them. The lady busily showing us her stitching and needlework was quite excited, as she was hoping to make a bit of extra money from some soldiers who would be staying in the village overnight. She said she could make a bit of money by renting her palliasses to them for the night, although she would be sleeping downstairs and not upstairs just in case her virtue was challenged. A good afternoon was had by one and all, with some real gems from a bygone age, which reminds one how simple life could be?



PORTCHESTER PERSPECTIVES NO. 17

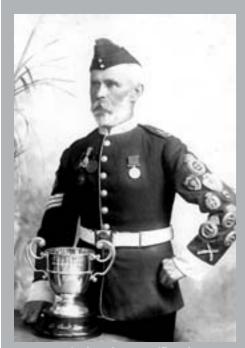
In Defence of the Realm: C18th Style & C20th Style

by Bryan Jerrard ©

WHILE I WANT TO CONCENTRATE ON THE 1798 VERSION OF THIS ACT since it describes Portchester in some detail, it is interesting to see what happened in the 1914 version of the Act with the same name.

On 8th August 1914 the Government took on enormous powers under the DEFENCE OF THE REALM ACT. Under the Act no-one was allowed to talk about naval or military matters in public places, to spread rumours about military matters, to buy binoculars, to light bonfires or fireworks, to give bread to horses or chickens (!), to use invisible ink when writing abroad or to buy brandy or whisky in a railway refreshment room.

Besides this no one was allowed to ring church bells, and the government could take over any workshop or



A Sergeant in the 6th Hants Rifle Volunteers

factory or land and it could censor newspapers. Later legislation under this Act added to this enormous increase in the government's power including starting British Summer Time to give more daylight for extra work.

Southern Hampshire in the 1790s

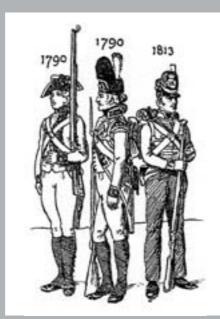
The Government passed the Defence of the Realm Act in 1798. It feared that there would be a French invasion even before the emergence of Napoleon as a leader. He started building a fleet of flat-bottomed boats for invasion in 1805. The ideas of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity unleashed by the French Revolution in 1789 could spread by contagion and the government feared revolution in this country and even took steps to control printing and the price of paper. Then, the regular army was only 40,000 men.

Government Policy

The Act was addressed to the 'Nobility, Gentry and Yeomanry' who involved the parish constable in Portchester to fill in pages of detailed information. The aim was that should there be an invasion the enemy (not named) would have no opportunity to live off the land for a distance of some 15 to 20 miles inland. Besides, local communities were expected to support His Majesty's Forces with food supplies, wagons and horses. The Portchester returns by the constable, Henry Hayden, are in the County Record Office at Q22/1/2/5/72, and provide a very useful profile of the parish in this period. Hayden filled in the returns; at least he could sign himself off (Constabell) at a time when village constables were unpaid, and usually unwilling and unable!

Portchester's Assets

Some six farmers had eight wagons requiring four or more horses to pull



Infantrymen either side of a Foot Guard. Richard & Herbert Knötel and Herbert Sieg 'Uniforms of the World'

them. About 24 horses were available and farmers Ralfs and Thomas Hyde had eight and six respectively. Six drivers were available and two were described as 'Conductors' who would be used to lead farm stock and people inland.

There were 120 fit men aged 15 to 60 years and eight were 'infirm or incapable of active service' and four more were young boys. This seems a bit inaccurate since in the first census in 1801 the total population was 917.

Captain Allan Mackensie was the lieutenant in the Royal Portchester Corps (a Dad's Army) where William Barr and James Stenson and 25 others were infantrymen. Another eight were with the local barrack department and had arms. Only one served as a cavalryman in the Portsdown Cavalry. In the Royal Portchester Volunteers, also the nearest to the modern T.A., about 20 others served. Under the headings 'Aliens' and 'Quakers' none was listed.

Farming Assets & Supplies

The Board of Agriculture returns for our parish at this time are very poor so the following audit is very helpful. There were six oxen, used for ploughing, 25 cows and seven young cows (presumably calves and heifers) while some 245 sheep and goats and 141 pigs dominated the livestock. Altogether there were seven riding horses and 43 draught-horses for the ten wagons and 12 carts.

There were two corn mills and seven bakers' ovens in the parish with ready supplies of 336 quarters of wheat, 124 of barley - and 220 of malt. The government wanted to know how much flour was at the ready - 5 sacks of 280 lbs or 127.3 kg - for making hundreds of 3lbs - 1.4 kg - loaves a day, though wood for fuel was not abundant.

Arms and Equipment

Usually one could not bear arms in the 1700s unless you had land to the value of £10 or more a year. There were four swords available, 25 firelock rifles and two pikes. Some five felling axes, two pick axes, a spade and a shovel were listed – surely an underestimate of tools at the time. Two men, John Roberts and John Spreadbury, were willing to act as 'cattle servants' should it be necessary to move livestock inland.

County Organisation

Before the Defence Act was passed ten extra Deputy Lords Lieutenant for Hampshire were appointed in 1797 to strengthen government power in the county. At the same time William Henry Bennett of Fareham was given a captain's commission in the South Hants Battalion of the Hants Militia. His wealth of some £200 of property quaranteed his eligibility. Through him and other leaders arrangements were made in the early 1800s for parish representatives to meet at the Red Lion in Fareham to get news and instructions from the Home Office in London. In the event no invasion happened. But some valuable insights into government thinking to support the army and to deprive the enemy of the means of living off the land provide us with a useful view of Portchester on the eve of the first census.

Some Society Activities

by Paul Woodman

Members have been busy promoting the Society and involving the community during September.

Bryan Jerrard led walks along Castle Street during Heritage Open Days week and although the weather deterred people on the Saturday walk, with only half a dozen joining him, the Sunday walk attracted a much larger following who enjoyed his fascinating and often humorous comments on the architecture and development of this historic street.

On Sunday 18th September the Society again took part in the Marine Conservation Society's Beachwatch survey. With help from volunteers our members cleaned and surveyed a 100-metre stretch of beach from the bottom of Hospital Lane. Amongst the volunteers were a couple from Coventry



who came down to take part in the Hayling Island survey on Saturday, and having seen our event publicised joined our group on Sunday. Around 600 items were gathered and identified but Hazel reports that the beach was definitely cleaner than last year. A great improvement!

Don't forget our 'Memories of Portchester' exhibition in the Parish Hall on Saturday 12th November where we will have on display our vast collection of photographs, painting and memorabilia of Portchester Past. The tea, coffee and homemade cakes are always a popular part of the exhibition! 10am to 4.30pm.



10 11

Planning

The White Hart public house in Castle Street is now in business as a Co-op store. The Portchester Civic Society was against this change of use and the loss of yet another pub in our community. Unfortunately planning rules meant that the change of use from a pub to a store does not require an official planning application so there was no formal way we could object. We did send a letter to the council pointing out the problems of parking access, how lorries would deliver and the dangers, especially to schoolchildren, on this dangerous corner. The Council will monitor the situation. As the property and garden is in the Castle Street Conservation area we could however have a say on the signage and lighting for the new store as this did require planning consent. We have been successful in having this application refused as "by virtue of their size, colour, materials and design (particularly in light of their relationship with the staggered design of the front of the building) the fascia signs represent an obtrusive feature, detrimental to the character and appearance of the street scene and the Castle Street Conservation Area."

Our Society was asked to attend and assist in the official opening along with other community groups and receive a cheque for £250 but we declined the invitation and money, as we felt this compromised our position having objected to the change of use. An application has been put in to demolish the Linden Lea pub and build a new Co-op store with five flats above and three houses in part of the car park. We will be following this application closely.

Two houses are now being built in the old White Hart pub's garden and having seen the original plans we objected on the grounds of poor design, the layout of the parking areas and the height of the front wall which would have obscured the

visibility of drivers leaving the properties. We have been instrumental in the architect having to resubmit a better design and ensure high quality materials are used. The front wall height has also been reduced to a more sensible level.

We note that the trees and shrubs lining the foreshore at Cams Hall where the new mock Cams Mill restaurant is to be built were hastily taken down. We attended the planning meeting when permission was given for this development and where we were told nothing would be done until all the conditions placed upon the acceptance had been carried out. So much for a promise from the developers! They have now been told to replace much of the planting by November. Our Society was strongly against this development in a green park area that was pushed through regardless of breaking most of the Council's planning rules, and with opposition from many in the community including the Fareham Society.

Programme of Events for 2011/12

2011

Saturday 12th November

'Memories of Portchester'

An exhibition of photos, paintings and memorabilia of Portchester past organised by the Portchester Civic Society Parish Hall, Castle Street, Portchester, PO16 9PY, 10am - 4.30pm – for more information 02392 382778

Tuesday 15th November

AGM and 'They kept the home fires burning' – The story of Portsmouth and Gosport Women in WW1 by Jenny Bartlett. Parish Hall, 7.30pm

Tuesday 13th December

Christmas Dinner and Auction Parish Hall, 7.30pm, Tickets £14

2012

Tuesday 17th January

Old Portsmouth circa 1850 by Professor Ray Riley. Parish Hall, 7.30pm

Tuesday 21st February

The Battle of the Solent, July 1545 and the loss of the Mary Rose by Dr Dominic Fontana. Parish Hall, 7.30pm

Tuesday 20th March

The South Downs National Park for the 21st Century; Past, Present & Future by Nick Hesman. Parish Hall, 7.30pm

Tuesday 17th April

Sustainability — Principles & Practice by Mary Lewis, Manager, The Sustainability Centre, East Meon. Parish Hall, 7.30pm

Tuesday 15th May

Royal Clarence Yard

- Feeding the Forces 1821 - 1992
by Lesley Burton. Parish Hall, 7.30pm

Tuesday 19th June

TBC

July & August No Meetings

Tuesday 18th September

Some Aspects of Flying from Lee on Solent Airfield by David Reading. Parish Hall, 7.30pm

Tuesday 16th October

Hampshire Parks and Gardens by Janice Bennetts, Hampshire Gardens Trust. Parish Hall, 7.30pm

Tuesday 20th November

AGM and History & Language – Just Codswallop? by Bryan Jerrard. Parish Hall, 7.30pm

PARISH HALL, CASTLE STREET, PORTCHESTER, PO16 9PY

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS AND VISITORS

PORTCHESTER MATTERS

The Newsletter of the Portchester Civic Society

Founded 2000 | Registered Charity No. 1090509

Member of:

CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England); BTCV; Civic Voice; Solent Protection Society; Hampshire Buildings Preservation Trust; Portsmouth Harbour Conservation Group

For further information please contact our Chairman Hazel Woodman: 02392 382778 www.PortchesterCivicSociety.co.uk