

No: 99



Sherington Historical Society

Newsletter



June 2018

www.mkheritage.co.uk/shhs

Special dates for your diary

10th July

July Jolly - meal at The White Hart. For further details please contact Pearl on 01908 610661.

8th August

No Meeting.

11th September

Members Meeting. Please come for a low key evening archiving and chat.

29th September

Open Day - Bygones. This year the SHS will be working with Philip Smith to revive the Bygones events, where we will invite a good number of past residents, or people with connections to the Village, for a get-together.

9th October

The Living Archive Band. Come for a great evening of live music, when the Living Archive Band come back to Sherington after about 10 years.

13th November

Members Can Talk. A chance where we can talk about something we care about. Please contact any member of the Committee to let us know what you want to talk about.

11th December

Christmas Party. Games, wine and nibbles. Bring a nibble to share and need there be any more said.

8th January

Members Meeting. Please come for a low key evening archiving and chat.

Mid January

January Jolly. More details nearer the time.

12th February

Film Night. We will be showing June Corfield's film plus others, more details nearer the time.

12th March

AGM (Annual General Meeting). Time to review the year and appoint the committee for the next year.

Our Tuesday monthly meetings start at 8.00 pm unless otherwise stated.

Mark's Musings (A ramble from the chair)



Let's get the business sorted first. Firstly, the July Jolly. The Jolly is in place of the July Members' meeting (10th July) that we would have had, so we have swapped filing with noshing. I would hope by now that you have had your menu from Pearl, and your choices need to be back to her before the day with your monies. This then makes it easier for Pearl, not having to chase you for your money on the night. If we are

small in number we will be in the snug, otherwise we will be in the main restaurant area. As it always is, this will be a jolly evening, so come along if you can.

As all of you perhaps remember, we do not meet in August, so after the Jolly our next meeting is a members' meeting at the Village Hall on the 11th September, where I think we should be prepping for the Open Day, of which I am eagerly awaiting.

The Open Day this year, which is on the last Saturday of September (29th) at the Village Hall, should be a great amount of fun with a get-together of people that have not met for some years with reminiscences and stories of old being told that have not been told for many years. More details to come closer to the time, but it is being organised in the background, so again a great event to be part of.

The walks of the last couple of weeks went as well as we had ever expected. We had about 35 walkers on Monday 11th June who came to Sherington, with two groups from Milton Keynes - The Two Villages Archive Trust (or TVAT), the two villages being Milton Keynes Village and Broughton, as well as a group from the Milton Keynes Museum. As expected, Philip regaled the walkers of Sherington of his boyhood and earlier. He had also organised entry into the gardens of The Manor, which are looking spectacular - best I've ever seen - as well as providing their own refreshments, for which we were very grateful. I have to thank all for the provision of cakes and help on the night with serving the teas and cakes. It was a special evening and I am very grateful for everyone's efforts. See the photos at the end of this newsletter and on the front cover.

The following day, we are all back on our feet walking around Olney, where we were being guided by Tom Jones, one of the Trustees of the Cowper and Newton



Museum, and boy, he knows the history of Olney and the surrounding area. He talks about it with such enthusiasm, I think the tour went on for about an hour longer than it might have been, and he never seems to draw breath. I learnt loads about Olney that I never knew. So we might see Tom next season giving us one of his talks. Funnily, I saw this week that Tom had just reached a milestone birthday, and Liz Knight from the Museum had knitted him a new pair of stockings as a gift. So he looked very fine in his Georgian outfit.

Just a gentle reminder, please keep submitting those photos for the competition and hope to see you at the Jolly on the 10th July.

Mark Vale

News Snippet

We were very sorry to hear of the death of John Burgess. We have lost a valued member of the village and of Sherington Historical Society. John and Jill have been involved with many village activities over the years. Kay recalls seeing him cooking on a BBQ, possibly fundraising for one of the Feasts, and we're sure that there were many Church events that he supported. Latterly, John was keen to record village events on his video camera.



John Burgess (third from left) - the first Thumsticks walk

John and Jill have kindly offered their hand bells at many of our Christmas parties, making for a lot of fun.

Our thoughts are with Jill and their family at this time.

We hope to include an article about John in the next newsletter.

Liz Revell

Extract from the Bucks Herald, 1861

The newspaper report below is about Thomas Bissell who is accused of stealing at Sherrington. Thomas, a gardener, was originally from Hanslope and married Caroline Ager, a lacemaker, at St Laud's on 29 July 1860. Thomas lived in Sherrington at the time, but he was originally from Hanslope. Caroline's family came from Moulsoe and she and her young child are with her parents at Moulsoe on the 1861 census whilst Thomas is in prison.

1861 Marriage solemnized by Banns in the Church of Sherrington in the County of Bucks.

No.	When Solemnized	Name and Residence	Age	Condition	Rank of Profession	Residence at the Time of Marriage	Father's Name and Profession	Rank of Profession
138	July 29 th	Thomas Bissell Gardener Hanslope	24	Bachelor	Gardener	Sherrington	Samuel Bissell	Laborer
		Caroline Ager	21	Spinster	Lacemaker	Moulsoe	Samuel Ager	Laborer

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Church of England by Mr. William King

This Marriage was solemnized before us, Thomas Samuel Bissell In the Presence of us, George & Thomas King

Marriage certificate of Thomas Bissell and Caroline Ager

Bucks Herald - Saturday January 5 1861

Stealing Firewood and Oats at Sherrington

Thomas Bissell, 24, gardener, was charged with stealing a quantity of firewood, value 1s, the property of the Rev Alexander King, his master, at Sherrington, on the

8th of December, 1860; and 20 bushels of oats, also the property of his master, at Sherington, on the 11th of December, 1860.

Mr Stevenson prosecuted; Mr Bosanquet defended the prisoner.

John Atwell, coachman to the prosecutor, said – The prisoner is gardener in Mr King’s employ. In consequence of something said to me by Mr King, I watched a stack of wood in the yard, and on the 8th December I missed about a quarter of a hundred weight. Subsequently I missed about the same quantity and informed my master. I then marked some of the wood in the stack. The yard is locked up at night; the prisoner and I have each a key. On the 8th December I locked the gate. I identify the marks put by myself on the wood now produced by the police.

Police-constable John Philby said – In consequence of instructions received, I watched Mr King’s stack on the 3rd, 4th, and 8th December, and about five o’clock in the evening of the 8th I saw the prisoner go and take some wood from a stack, put it in a sack, place it on his shoulder, and take it away. I charged him with stealing the wood, and he said he had not taken it off the premises.

His Lordship, in summing-up, directed the jury that the slightest removal of any article, even if not off the premises with an intention to appropriate it, was a larceny.

The Jury immediately found the prisoner guilty.

The other count for stealing oats was not proceeded with.

His Lordship sentenced the prisoner to twelve months’ imprisonment, with hard labour, and said if he came to the court again he would certainly be sentenced to penal servitude.

The Old Rectory

A couple of extracts below from old books on Sherington Rectory (now The Old Rectory).

Extract from “History and Antiquities of the Newport Pagnell Hundreds”

Compiled, Printed and Published by Oliver Ratcliff, Cowper Press, Olney, Bucks, 1900

Sherington Rectory

Stands about a quarter of a mile distant on the south side from the church. It is a large building and is surrounded by neat pleasure grounds and gardens. An old terrier (*NB: terrier is the Church of England property register*), dated 1639, gives the following:

The parsonage house, containing five bays of buildings. The barn, containing seven bays. The Granary, Dovecote, and Stable in the middle of the yard, containing three bays. The garden and yard, and site, two acres. The Pightles, two acres and a half. Seven roods of glebe meadow in the town mead. Commons for five cows and a half, and for thirty sheep. In Windmill Field, five acres three roods and one-third and one ley arable. In the little field, four acres two roods arable. In Goldworth Furlong, four acres one rood arable.

In the month of June, 1645, a portion of the Parliamentary army, under Fairfax, is said to have encamped in the field known as “Bancroft” which adjoins the rectory.

Extract from “The Monuments of Buckinghamshire”

Published 1913

THE RECTORY, about 280 yards S.E. of the church, is a house of two storeys and an attic, built of stone early in the 17th century, and has modern additions on the N. side. The roofs are tiled. The original plan is H-shaped; the middle block faces E, and contains the hall and staircase; the drawing room and dining room are in the S. wing, the study and kitchen in the N. wing; the space between the wings in front is filled by a modern conservatory, and a modern porch has been added at the back. In the S. wall, under the eaves is a stone inscribed with the initials and date ‘T. M. 1607’. Interior:- The hall is lined with early 17th-century panelling, and the principal staircase is probably of late 17th-century date.

The coach house and a large barn are possibly of 17th-century or earlier date. The walls are of stone; the timbers of the roof are visible inside the barn.

Condition - Good.



Sherington Rectory - postcards, not dated





*Aerial shot of The Old Rectory,
2007*

The Old Rectory as it is today



Guided Walk

See the opposite page and the front cover for photos of the guided walk for the two groups from TVAT and MK Museum in early June. Philip talked to them in St Laud's and then they went from the Church, taking in Church End, Gun Lane and Park Road. They then walked along School Lane, Crofts End, to The Manor and along part of the High Street, then back to St Laud's through The Ridings for tea and cake.

A good time was had by all.



SHERINGTON PHOTO COMPETITIONS 2018

Wild Sherington

Sherington: Sights and Seasons



Further info
www.mkheritage.co.uk/sherington



RUNS UNTIL 31.12.18
Email entries to
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or phone Liz on 07941 403492