

BLAKENEY AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter No. 2

June 1998

Dear Members,

This is the second of our occasional newsletters designed to tell you what's going on in the Society and, more particularly, to let you know about forthcoming events. But firstly, a word about

EVENTS YOU'VE JUST MISSED

The **Spring Visit** was judged successful by those who were there. Janet Harcourt led us round the outside of Church Farm (16th century in parts) and then on to the old 'quay' area bounded towards the river by the remains of flint walls. What was its function? Were there buildings? Perhaps a resistivity survey could provide some clues. The party of 10 then turned into Chapel Street (past the old chapel), and down Granny Plum's Lane to the site of the old windmill on the Blakeney-Wiveton road, peering out from the shelter of the hedge to trace the earlier roads which once led to Wiveton. Finally to the churchyard, pausing by the tombstone of Thomas Smith, miller, carved with the implements of his trade, and then into the church to find the 16/17th century ship carved on a pillar. Thoughts of lunch dissuaded us from examining the Bridge.

The **Resistivity Course** at Bayfield Church run by Peter Carnell was also a great success. After a preliminary talk on Saturday morning we went off to survey the site and to do some resistivity readings, most people taking a turn at the various jobs. Peter spent much of the night turning the readings into plans for display on the screen, where we saw to our general astonishment – but what had we discovered? We aired our findings at Bayfield Hall on Sunday afternoon, and you can read all about it in the Journal.

FUTURE PROGRAMME

17th June
Wednesday

Summer lecture by Dr. TOM WILLIAMSON of UEA

The Historic Parks and Gardens of Norfolk: recent research on their origins and development. Tom Williamson has done much research himself on the parks and gardens of Norfolk and is also an excellent speaker – don't miss him! This illustrated talk will be held at the Blakeney Village Hall at 7.30 pm. It will be open to the general public and members are urged to bring their friends to ensure a good turnout for the speaker (£1 per head – free to members.)

It is expected that the Society's first **Journal** will be ready for distribution to members at this meeting. The journal contains a variety of articles – it also contains a request for contributions. Please help if you can. There is plenty of documentary evidence on the area and much scope for fieldwork and for recording the ingredients of local history while the memory is still fresh, but unless we make the effort to 'publish' much will remain unknown or lost altogether.

1st July

Subscriptions for the year 1998/9 are due on 1st July and should be paid directly to the Secretary, John Wright, whose address is 'Hillside, Morston Rd, Blakeney, NR25 7BG'. The amounts are the same as for 1997/8: £5 per person and £3 for those under 18. **The Secretary (as acting Treasurer) hopes you've read this far because there will not be any separate reminders.**

31st July to 2nd August
Friday to Sunday

Exhibition

In the Blakeney Methodist Chapel

A 3 day exhibition to show to both residents and visitors

something of the history of the Glaven villages. If you have items of interest which you could loan would you please see Mary Ferroussat before the end of June. Photos and documents would be welcome (though no originals will be displayed) and we are also looking for objects to represent the life of the village in days gone by. Items connected with the maritime activities of the Glaven villages would be particularly useful – this exhibition is not limited to Blakeney.

14th August
Friday

Visit to Sedgeford A guided tour of the Sedgeford archaeological excavations (4 miles from Hunstanton). The leaders give a tour of the site each Friday afternoon and on this occasion Dr Peter Carnell will also introduce the excavations for BAHS members. Those who wish to go should contact Peter (740789) for details about the location, times and footwear.

23rd September
Wednesday

AGM and Lecture
The annual AGM is a necessary meeting and we should like to have a quorum! We should also like to have some officers – and the work load is not great if enough people share it. We are already in need of a Treasurer and Membership Secretary, and we should also like to have two or three new Committee members. To encourage you to come there will be a lecture on some topic relevant to this part of Norfolk. The meeting will be held in the Chapel and will start at 7.30pm - more details later.

Clubnights

Those who attended the four clubnights last winter found them good value. The evenings are very informal, members' guests are welcome – and the coffee is free. Give them a try.

27th October
Tuesday 7.30pm

Clubnight Flint tools Janet Harcourt will bring some of the flint tools which have been found on her farm at Wiveton. If any members have stone tools of their own which they can bring in, please do - and we shall try to get an expert to help us distinguish 'man-made' flints from others.

24th November
Tuesday 7.30pm

Clubnight Names as in surnames, nicknames, parish names, field names etc. What would you like to know? Perhaps other members can supply some answers.

26th January 1999
Tuesday 7.30pm

Clubnight Local postcards Gerald Cubitt will bring some examples from his large collection. Again, other members might like to bring any old postcards of the area that they have. Some non-members will also be asked to show some cards.

23rd February 1999
Tuesday 7.30pm

Clubnight Theme to be arranged. Metal detecting a possibility.

27th March 1999
Saturday

Spring visit Venue to be arranged.

June 1999

Lecture Speaker and date to be arranged.

Any comments, requests, etc should be made known to any member of the Management Committee or to the Secretary: John Wright (01263 740589).

Data Protection Act

Would members please note that names, addresses and other membership details are held on computer by the Society. These can be seen on application to the Secretary.