

Stanford & Westenhanger History Society - NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the very first Stanford & Westenhanger History Society newsletter!

Presentations

The COVID-19 pandemic limited our ability to meet our plans for presentations in both 2020 and 2021.

However, towards the end of the 2021, as life has slowly returned to normal, the History Society has been thrilled to be able to recommence a programme of presentations.

The first meeting on 1st October was a presentation by Christopher McCooey on **'Smuggling on the South Coast'**.

The society were then proud to host our largest meeting to date on 17th November - **'Otterpool Park Archaeology Presentation'** about the site of the proposed Otterpool Park. It was fantastic to welcome 100 people to listen to the presentation by Kate Clover, the Senior Archaeological Consultant from Arcadis, and we were very grateful to Lympne Castle for allowing us to use their stunning venue. The presentation focused on the archaeology found to date including prehistoric finds and a Roman villa as well as Westenhanger Castle and its' deer park.

For those who were unable to attend, a recording of the presentation can be found on our website. [Click here](#) to view the video.

For our first meeting of 2022, we were very grateful to Mike De La Mare for stepping into the breach at the last minute, following the cancellation of our planned speaker, and giving a very interesting presentation on **'Walking through the Past: Croft's Walk in Saltwood'** on 18th March. If you were unable to attend the presentation, a map of the route was sent to all members ahead of the date, and we would encourage you to explore the location now that the warmer weather is upon us.

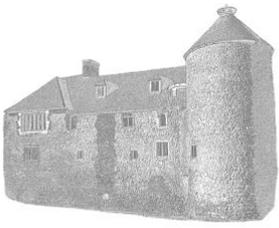
Change of day and venue

Following feedback from members, the committee is trialling a move to Wednesday evening for our next meeting. We will review the dates for September and November and confirm any changes in plenty of time.

We have also made the decision to move our talks to All Saints Church in Stanford, a lovely historical venue. Please note that there are no toilet facilities available here, and we will be unable to serve refreshments. However, we will be gathering at The Drum Inn in Stanford after the presentation.

The Stanford & Westenhanger History Society is affiliated with the Lyminge Historical Society (LHS). More information about the LHS can be found on their website.

www.lymingehistoricalsociety.co.uk



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Forthcoming presentations

Wednesday 4th May – The Story of post war aviation at Lympne Airport – Betty Black. To be held at **All Saints Church, Stanford**. Doors open at 6:30pm, and presentation will start at 7pm.



Skyways

The story of post-war passenger aviation at Lympne Airport

Lympne was one of the oldest airfields in the country, but after WWII it began to revert to agricultural use...

then along came Silver City and Skyways!

This talk, by Betty Black, tells the story.

The aeroplanes, the accidents and incidents, the visiting celebrities and some of the characters it was a privilege to work with.

16th September 2022 - The Battle of Britain
– David Brockenhurst

18th November 2022 – The White Cliffs of
Dover – John Buss

If you have any areas of interest that you would like us to arrange talks on, please do let us know and we will see what we can do!

Membership Fees

Due to the pandemic and temporary halt to society meetings, we have not collected membership fees since our foundation in January 2020. However, now that we have been able to resume a full programme of talks and events, we will be contacting members in January 2023 for their annual membership fees.

Books

We still have a few copies of ‘Stanford Parish through the Centuries’ by Catharine Goodwin. Books can be collected, or posted to you for an additional charge to cover the cost of postage.

Website

<https://www.stanfordhistorykent.com/>

Thank you for your continued support, and we hope to see you at our forthcoming meetings.

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www.lympnehistoricalsociety.co.uk