



# Newsletter

## Spring 2022

News 🏠 Meetings 🏠 Reports 🏠 Diary  
Dates 🏠 Travellers' Tales

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This newsletter provides reports on the activities of WARG, the Society for Winchester archaeology and local history. It also carries information of interest to the WARG membership.

For more information on WARG or to join, email [membership@warg.org.uk](mailto:membership@warg.org.uk) or visit [www.warg.org.uk](http://www.warg.org.uk)

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## **Editorial**

Hello Everyone. Did you notice our special logo?

Well, here we are in WARG's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year and still digging, thanks to the hard-working committees over the years, and the loyal membership, which is gradually increasing, some of whom were welcomed in as a result of the excellent 2021 dig.

What a pleasure to be able to meet up again in the Record Office Cinema for the June Lloyd lecture. Thanks to Chris Sellen's expertise with the IT, we were able to make it a hybrid event which was very successful, and enabled those who could not get to Winchester, to enjoy Dr. Hamerow's fascinating talk. Understandably, not all speakers wish to have their talk recorded, and they therefore cannot be shared on YouTube, so this is a good opportunity to give everyone the chance of hearing the speakers and getting full value for their membership. It is an important innovation for those who are disabled or live too far away to get to Winchester. If anyone who does not use email but would like to watch the talks via friend's or family's equipment, please let me know and I will send you the Zoom link via snail mail. We do not limit the numbers around the screen, so others may watch with you. For talks which can be recorded, they are posted on YouTube for a period of two weeks following the talk, so everyone should get a chance to watch.

For this edition we have so many detailed contributions from our scribes that, in order to do them justice, I intend to retain Brian Hague's talk on The Winchester Pageant, the

June Lloyd lecture and Dr. Crook's talk on Winchester Cathedral for the summer edition. Whilst I could provide a 50-page book this time I am very aware of the rapidly escalating cost of paper and printing, so I shall endeavour to rein in my enthusiasm for writing on the multitude of items I gather over the months, and leave you with the experts. As the summer issue will coincide with the anniversary date, I think that Winchester Cathedral will be an especially appropriate item, and I hope to have tried out that lift in the meantime.

I hope you have all come through the recent storms unscathed and were able to enjoy the sunshine before the snow. Not quite enough for a snowman, and the daffodils looked a trifle confused bobbing about in the snow.

So read and hopefully enjoy, with all very best wishes,

*Janet.*



### **Chairman's report – Steve Old**

Welcome all members to your Spring 2022 Newsletter.

2022, our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year, has started with another mixed bag but when it comes to archaeology and local history, we have seen the year start well with some very good WARG talks and the June Lloyd Lecture which was a year late but worth the wait. I would have liked a few more people in the audience, but in view of the situation over the past two years I can see it will take time to get back to normal.

We have continued to try new things to see if we can adapt to make what we offer our members more meaningful and easier to access. Some innovations have been successful,

some not quite as much. For the June Lloyd lecture we tried a hybrid meeting style for the first time but the technical side let us down in some areas. Chris Sellen worked very hard to overcome the issues and I thank him wholeheartedly for all his help and dedication. We have taken this onboard and hope to have the bugs fixed by the next one we try. Also, for the June Lloyd lecture we tried using "Ticketsource" for booking the tickets, which from an admin point of view went very well, so I think we will try this again, possibly for booking slots on events and visits where space is limited.

In other news, Time Team has returned with three new episodes being filmed and broadcast on YouTube on the Time Team dedicated channel. The format is very familiar but the personnel has changed. The archaeology is still as fascinating, being enhanced with the application of modern techniques and technology as well as the usual trowel in the ground.

It is looking very likely that we shall be returning to Hursley Park this year for our Big Dig, however, the dates have changed, being brought forward for various reasons. If it is just a little bit as successful as last year, we are in for a great time. Remember, it is not just diggers we need, but also people to process the finds and record the trenches, so when the booking opens, why not have a go. If you feel you cannot get out to Hursley, I am sure a system of lifts can be put in place to try to help out.

The "Anniversary Book" detailing the history of WARG and the memories of its members, is all but completed, going through the final stages before publication, like proof reading, format checking, copyright checking and looking at a launch date and event. The book has been a labour of love to get together and a big thank you to all those who have contributed an article or a memory. I think the book

will be a great record and celebration of WARG and ALL its members, current and past. As soon as we have any more information re publication date and cost, I will send a message.

I would like to start a “Winchester” photography competition for WARG members over the summer as I am sure there are many budding photographers out there. The subject would need to be somewhere in Winchester and show Winchester’s history in either a good or bad way, highlighting what we have done well and where we need to improve, what do you all think?

Over the past few years, when time has allowed, and as part of my recreation and unwinding from a hard day, I have been writing another book about the “Religious House of Winchester” using the “Victorian County History” as a base, but expanding and explaining further, adding in known archaeological information. This is also, hopefully, to be published this year.

We are still looking for an events person to help organize the talks and events, a task that I have taken on over the past year, but, with my caring responsibilities and personal situation taking more of my time, I am not sure how long I can continue to devote the required time and thought to this task. The role of Chair is not one I would have chosen to take on in normal circumstances, as to do the role justice, it takes more time than I really have spare, taking on the events organizer role has added to this so I feel I am in danger of failing to perform either role adequately. Saying this, I feel very privileged to hold this role for such a great society and unless someone else volunteers (Please!) I cannot see the role moving to anyone else any time soon!



## **“Power by Design” How Hitler dictated his brand. Presentation by Charles Harris – Edwina Cole**

Charles Harris used some very powerful images to illustrate his talk, which vividly demonstrated their power. I hope I have not offended by not including some of them. (Editor)

In November Charles Harris explored on Zoom exactly how Hitler presented himself to the German people. There is little doubt that Adolf Hitler became the demigod of his age. The Nazis were totally in control, with all the publicity aimed at the German people to gain their trust. By connecting with his people in his time he was the mouthpiece and poster boy of the Nazi party.



1889 © BBC

*“My whole life can be summed up as this ceaseless effort of mine to persuade other people”*

He seemed normal and ordinary. His father died when he was 13. He liked painting flowers and churches, and for a while, lived in a homeless shelter. He said that it was a Jew who denied him a place at the Academy of Fine Arts.

He was a decorated war veteran, which gave him credibility. He refused to believe that the UK had won the First World War and was always looking to the next time. He learnt to use the politics of fear and took a great interest in the German Workers Party.



The Iron Cross second class



1935 at a Youth Camp gathering  
©history.com

Dietrich Eckart believed in Hitler and gave him his first important break giving him power over the young people. They had seen Lenin's art for purpose, and used photos on the posters. When he was sent to Landsberg prison he became something of a martyr.

He believed that persuasion was as powerful as coercion and decided that the Jews would be an easy target. He said they were evil, which was his way of getting his own back for not getting into art school not once but twice!

Hitler knew that the German people were not Communists. He would be the people's Caesar. His cult blossomed because he played to their needs. The Nazis were not so much a political party but a movement. He declared that he would be Germany's saviour and saw his destiny as the Special One. He sensed that symmetry and symbolism were important and said,

*"If you have to tell a lie, make it a big one"*

He had a vision of a new race-less Germany under a new leader, and despite not being very tall seemed larger than life. He never stopped campaigning and in 1930 Joseph Goebbels was appointed to run Nazi propaganda. Hitler didn't like being called a Nazi because it was a derogatory term for a backward peasant originating in Bavaria.

Members of the party referred to themselves as



Nationalsozialisten (National Socialists), and rarely as Nazis. 1932 election poster  
©Library of Congress

They believed in a primacy of nations, and that Germany was the best. Hitler was a passionate performer. He didn't encourage debate because it was only his view that mattered. At the mass rallies he would use Goebbels as a



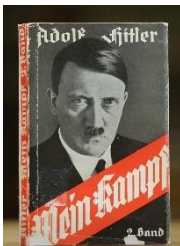
warm up act, then he would appear with every one hanging on to his every word as his voice rose higher and higher.

*“The masses are slow moving – they need a push.”*

So, what did Hitler want? Basically, it was conquest and revenge. By July 1932 he had increased his popularity, and by November of that year was fighting further Reichstag elections, promising the earth and a wonderful future. As a result, in January 1933 he was appointed as Chancellor.

Paul von Hindenberg, who was President at the time, didn't realize what Hitler was about to do. The media was completely cleansed with everything policed by Goebbels.

Hitler became very wealthy, and even the stamps had his face on them. He had total media control, in that it served the state, not the people. The Nazi Brand identity was published in 1936. In “Mein Kampf” (My Struggle) he knew the importance of symbols because big brands need great logos (as they do today.)



Nazi symbolism was everywhere. The idea of a pure Germanic race was fundamental to Nazism and the swastika was adopted to reinforce this idea.

The colour red spoke to the workers of Germany, white evoked the idea of a raceless society, and the swastika itself, despite being an important and universal prehistoric religious symbol, was adopted as supporting the idea of an ancient Aryan master race.

In 1934 Von Hindenberg died. Hitler became Fuhrer and was in total control.

*One people*

*One Reich*

*One leader!*

The Nazis used leading edge technology to promote their party. Hitler valued the power of photography and used an image management team. Very soon he was being successfully portrayed as a trusted father figure.

In 1931 Hugo Boss joined the Nazi party and designed many of the uniforms, including the brown shirts and the black and brown uniforms of the Hitler Youth.

Stage designers were involved in decorating the streets to make an impression, and “The Triumph of the Will” was made. This film is still regarded as the best propaganda film of all time.

Theatrical Poster 1935

Hitler had many health problems however, and so had a personal doctor who administered many drugs to deal with them.

A waxwork of Hitler was made in Berlin underlining the power of Unreason. He was committed to the idea that everything that was wrong sprang from the Jews. Almost all Germans were Christian, with only 1% being Jewish. He appealed to the Christians by showing pictures of the ideal German family to a nation that longed for law and order.



He worked with simple ideas so that everybody could understand. In 1933 Hitler withdrew Germany from the League of Nations when it refused Germany's bid to build its military to a level equal to that of the other major powers.

He said that the Jews were not worthy to be German so in 1935 stripped them of their citizenship.

Very soon the Nazi salute let the people be part of the dream of a triumphant Germany with Good Morning replaced by Heil Hitler, and school children required to salute the Fuhrer every morning.

Radios were given out so that everyone could hear the Fuhrer's voice and listen to his message.

*"Smash the Enemies of Greater Germany"*

*Adolf Hitler ist der Sieg! Adolf Hitler is Victory.*

BUT Hitler was NOT invincible, he was NOT their saviour and Britain together with the rest of Europe worked together to succeed in defeating him.



## **Congratulations Winchester Excavation Committee – Janet Backhouse**

From 1962 to 1971, The Winchester Excavation Committee conducted the largest ever programme of archaeological research in a British city. Over 2000 people, including some WARG members, dug on the various sites, covering 2000 years of the City's history. This study was ground breaking and is still considered, internationally, to be the most



important and influential of its kind. Vast quantities of material were excavated, giving priceless insight into the development of the city over time.

**Old Minster, Cathedral Green 1964**  
©Winchester Excavation Committee

Those of you familiar with WARG will know that this study was led by our very own Professor Martin Biddle, who was also the progenitor of WARG.

Although a small organization, the Excavation Committee intends to digitise the findings and develop interactive,

educational resources. To that end, in December 2021, Hampshire County Council announced a grant of £200,000 to help achieve this goal, which will also prove a valuable promotion for the city as a Heritage site.

WARG sends many congratulations to Professor Biddle, the Excavation Committee and all who worked on this truly ground breaking project.

<https://www.winchesterstudies.org.uk/>



### **Out of the Royal Forests: the forgotten history of the 'medieval' English deer park, 1000-1700 by Dr. Amanda Richardson - Chris Sellen**

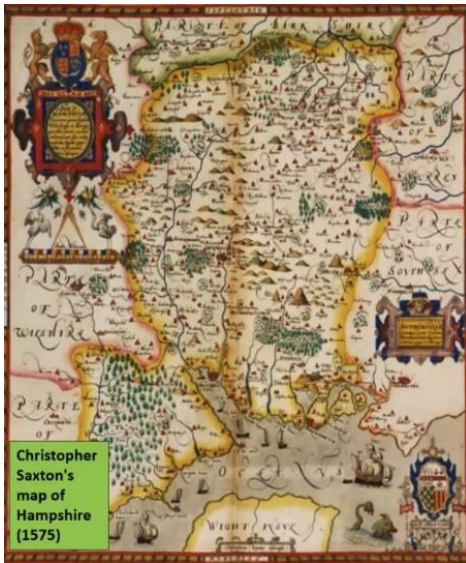
While Dr. Amanda Richardson was planning to give a talk about the 2019 excavations at Clarendon Palace, due to setbacks the reports were still coming in and she will be back in the future to update us. Instead, she gave us an illuminating talk on the history of the medieval deer park from 1000 to 1700. While we often see 'Park Pales' on Ordnance Survey maps, what does that mean, and how did it all work?

Amanda based this talk on an article to be published in 2022. While we associate deer parks with royal patronage and the Normans, they can be considered older and to extend into the late Medieval and even early Modern periods, appearing in Shakespeare for instance. Also, deer parks are almost exclusively an English phenomenon, shown by the country having a large proportion of old trees compared with all other European countries, whose forests are much more seen as an exploitable resource.

The idea of a royal forest also underlines that the deer in royal deer parks were fallow deer, a non-native species.

Fallows were maintained as an agile, thin breed, good for challenging hunting; and their pelts and antlers much prized.

The royal forest system was brought over by the Normans: land (not necessarily forest) was set aside for hunting and woodland timber management. They had their own laws, customs and administration. Verderers protected the health of the greenery so as not to destroy deer habitat. Hampshire was well-endowed with royal forests – not just the New Forest, as shown on Saxton's map.



Forests were administrative structures, reinforced and described by perambulations rather than maps. Many boundary points were marked by crosses (such as the White Cross in Rockingham, Northamptonshire, it being the sole remaining *in situ* example in the

country). In the Clarendon royal park, we get cross place names with similar associations: Shirmel; Moldecrouch; Walerands Cross.

Royal forests were not banked and ditched like specific deer parks so they are difficult to see archaeologically. But the deer park was generally a distinct feature in the landscape, within a royal forest. For instance, Clarendon deer park within the Clarendon royal forest.

The deer park was a large area of land in private ownership and the majority of the population was kept out of it. With an average size of about 100 acres, they varied from 50 to 4,200 acres, and the Bishop of Winchester's deer park at Bishop's Waltham was one of the larger ones at 1,000 acres. The Clarendon royal park was vast, at 4,500 acres one of the largest in England. Domesday records 37 deer parks (including Bishop's Waltham) but by 1500, almost 3,000 are recorded with mostly fallow deer.

Deer parks were bounded by pales (a ditch and bank) with intermittent deer leaps, which allowed deer in but not out. While mainly used for hunting there was an increasing element of status, especially as fallow deer were exotic. Fallow deer were originally introduced by the Romans (most likely for hunting) but they died out and were only re-introduced from the early 11<sup>th</sup> century – the earliest recently discovered date was 1000, being at least a second-generation animal.



**a deer-leap**

A general increase occurs over half a millennium, and mainly in England, with very little in Europe. They become a key feature of English maps (see the Christopher Saxton County map of Hampshire). The historical literature is littered with references to deer parks and hunting activities including those of European travellers and dignitaries. Some descriptions of Windsor say that parks are so close and nearly continuous that animals can easily be driven from one park to another.

While fallow deer hunting was widespread and enjoyed by the gentry and clergy, by end of 16<sup>th</sup> century it was being described as 'effeminate' by Jacobean royalty who preferred open country hunting of red deer – in the continental style. But then they would, wouldn't they? However, royalty is often depicted with a thematic background in portraiture, for instance backgrounds to Elizabethan or Jacobean portraits which declare a continuity with the Tudor past and a taking on of Englishness and manners and legitimacy.

The hunting technique most used was the Bow and Stable approach, a spectator sport with beaters driving deer towards male and female 'hunters'. Those watching applauded and the sight of females killing animals was considered 'an exquisite pleasure'.



Deer hunting in the park© South Downs National Park

The use and possession of deer parks was also indicative of cultural one-upmanship with England priding herself on this cultural delight therefore being more cultured than other countries. Shakespeare is clearly familiar with hunting (whether he was once arrested for unlawful hunting is apocryphal) but *Love's Labours Lost* is set in the King of



Navarre's Park, and *Merry Wives of Windsor* is full of Falstaffian references to hunting.

Shakespeare emphasized the impact on society of deer parks, but from the mid-1500's the herds of deer became symbolic of inequality and excess as post-dissolution gentry enclosed land and traditional rights of land use changed: parks and deer became targets. Mass slaughters were staged by mobs. As well as a rejection of the past it was very much a rebellion against the social order. Similar devastation occurred in the Civil War; parks seen as a Royalist pastime. Even deliberate subversion by park staff was seen as hunting taking place outside the season, affecting population numbers would upset continuity.

The mid-16<sup>th</sup> century disturbances largely bypassed the Bishop of Winchester but by mid-17<sup>th</sup> century much of the Bishop's Waltham land was being leased to farmers. Unrest, civil war, increasing cost of effort to maintain estates meant a general decline in deer parks.

In the 17<sup>th</sup> century parks without deer become more general with the development of root crops (including the humble turnip) allowing grazing of stock animals all year round, land then being unavailable for 'sport'. The rise of fox-hunting and landscaping in the 18<sup>th</sup> century also left its mark.

There is still much work to be done to understand the roles deer parks played in social and economic development over English history. For more information on our local grand deer park, Amanda recommends the seminal study by Edward Thomas, '*The Bishop of Winchester's Deer Parks 1200-1400*', *Proceedings of the Hampshire Field Club* 44 (1988).





## Winchester Cathedral Literary Connexions by Rosey Smith – Edwina Cole

In January we held the first meeting of our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, and we looked to the Cathedral as the subject of our first talk. Rosey Smith has been a Winchester Cathedral Guide for just over 4 years and used the time of lockdown to investigate the literary links that exist with the building.

Members will be familiar with the better-known memorials and statues, but apparently *“it takes half a lifetime to learn a Cathedral properly”* according to one of the characters in Charlotte Yonge’s novel ‘Heartsease’.

Rosey’s talk covered four main aspects:

Writers who are buried in the Cathedral,

Memorials in the Cathedral,

Those buried in the Cathedral who appear in literature,

The Cathedral building itself in literature.

**Izaak Walton** was a biographer, angler and Anglican of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. He is buried in the fisherman’s chapel, but has a memorial window as well as a statue on the great screen. He was described as ‘one of the most remarkable men of the English Renaissance’ writing at a time of huge upheaval. He witnessed the Civil War, the execution of a king, and the Restoration of the Church of England and the Monarchy.

He wrote several important biographies including those of John Donne, Sir Henry Wotton, Richard Hooker, George Herbert and Dr. Sanderson. He never wrote about himself, and once remarked *“When I sometimes look back upon my own education and mean abilities it is not without some wonder that I am come publicly into print.”*



Memorial window Winchester Cathedral  
©www.hampshirehistory.

He was captivated by Donne's sermons, and wrote 'The Compleat Angler' which was published in 1653. This is so much more than a fishing manual, designed to offer comfort to anglers, especially the clergy. He defended the prayer book, and some have wondered if angler is in

code for Anglican.

He spent the last years of his life in Droxford and Winchester, dying in the Great Frost of 1683.

**Jane Austen's** memorial is in the north nave aisle and is one of the most visited spots in the Cathedral. She lived at Chawton and was only 41 when she contracted what is now thought to be Addison's Disease. She is, of course, famous for her novels. She came to Winchester for the last part of her life, hoping for a cure. She and her sister Cassandra rented a house in College Street where she died in 1817.



memorial plaque in Winchester Cathedral

Jane's final poem was written in the week before she died. Called 'Venta', Latin for Winchester, it speaks of the races at Worthy Down and the rain associated with St Swithun. She died in Cassandra's arms. Cassandra wrote 'her dear remains are to be deposited in the Cathedral and will lie in a building she

admired so much.'

**Elizabeth Montague** was an important female literary figure of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. She is buried in the north aisle close to Jane Austen. She was very well educated and was

an author, business - woman, philanthropist, patron of the arts as well as a well - known literary critic. Her husband was buried before her in the Cathedral. She was a wealthy intellectual who defended the women writers of her day. She worked with fellow intellectuals in the Blue Stocking Circle attended by the cream of society including royalty. Samuel Johnson christened her “Queen of the blue stockings” which alluded to the fact that it was not essential to wear formal dress to attend. Later, this became a derisory term, but initially women’s writing, debate and discussion were all encouraged. She is remembered by her letters, which were published by her nephew, and her support for all living on her husband’s estates. She visited the Cathedral, attended services there and wrote a description of it.



Elizabeth Montagu, mezzotint engraving, by John Raphael Smith after a portrait by Sir Joshua Reynolds ©National Trust



**Memorial to Joseph Warton Winchester cathedral**

**Dr Joseph Warton** moved in the same literary circles as Elizabeth Montague, and is buried close to her in the north nave aisle. He was a literary critic and poet and also has a memorial in the south nave aisle. He was a scholar at Winchester College before becoming a schoolmaster at his old school. He was universally beloved, and in time became Headmaster. Sadly, the school did not thrive under his leadership. These were dangerous times, and

there was a serious lack of discipline. So, he left and returned to the clergy and his writing.

**Frances Burney** was encouraged to write by Elizabeth Montague and wrote a number of novels.



Portrait by her cousin Edward Burney c. 1784  
©National Portrait Gallery

She was much admired by Jane Austen, and her novel “Cecilia” is thought by some to possibly be an inspiration for “Pride and Prejudice”. She visited the Cathedral in 1791 and described it as a “poor, dear old building”.

**Brownlow North** was a well - connected Bishop of Winchester. His father was Francis North, 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Guildford, and he was the brother of the Prime Minister Lord North. He appointed his son as Master of St Cross and received very substantial financial benefits as a result. It turned into a financial scandal and he got the reputation of being an immoral, money-grabbing Churchman. When he died in 1820 the obituary in The Times made a lot of his financial mishandling. **Memorial Winchester Cathedral**



He was buried in the Cathedral, where his memorial remains. The scandal became the subject of Trollope’s novel “The Warden.”

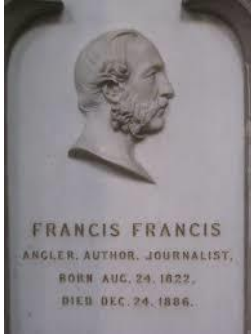
**Anthony Trollope** attended Winchester College but was very unhappy at school. He was very lazy and failed to get into Oxford or Cambridge. Instead, he worked for the Post Office and wrote in his spare time. He became very

disciplined as a writer and became one of the most prolific writers of his time.

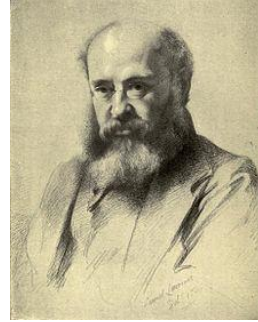
He knew Winchester well and was very familiar with St Cross. He disapproved of The Times newspaper and its moral stance. He wrote "The Warden" which is a story about public and private morality.

Anthony Trollop 1864

**Francis Francis** was an obsessively keen fisherman who wrote many



books on fishing and was fishing editor of "The Field" magazine. His memorial is in the north nave aisle. He introduced trout to rivers in Australia and New Zealand and visited Winchester to fish on the Itchen. He was a prolific writer on angling and stayed at the Royal Hotel in the city. He



wrote about the 'Mayfly Mess' which was a pleasant institution held annually for the first fortnight in June. He described it as *"7 cheery old anglers who meet at the above hostelry and chum together....."*

**Charlotte Yonge** was a prolific and bestselling novelist who lived at the same time as Francis Francis. She was born in Otterbourne and lived there for her whole life. Her memorial is in the Lady Chapel in the cathedral, but there is a statue of her outside Eastleigh station. She was much admired by writers such as Anthony Trollope, Lewis Carroll and Virginia Woolf. She was extremely well educated at

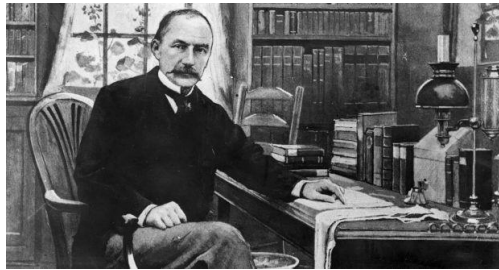
home by her father. She never married, which gave her time to write.

**Charlotte Younge 1858**

She wrote 90 novels, often portraying virtuous female characters. She believed that God ordained the subordination of women. She was a novelist, editor, historian, biographer, journalist, reviewer, essayist, translator and writer of text books. She was a frequent visitor to the Cathedral and had many friends there and in the Close. In 'Heartsease' she describes the view of the Cathedral, the nave, choir and chapel. There were many newspaper tributes to her on her death, coming from all over England.



**Thomas Hardy** lived in nearby Dorset and is famous for his Wessex Tales. Wintoncester features in the



final chapter of 'Tess and the D'Urbervilles'. He writes a description of the nave in the Cathedral in "Lady Mottisfont" a short story from 'A Group of Noble Dames'. Some of his recollections are distinctly racy!

**Thomas Hardy May 1893 ©HultonArchive/Getty Images**

Finally, we look at two contemporary novelists who take real people with links to the Cathedral as central characters.

**Tracy Chevalier** has written "A Single Thread" which celebrates the work of the volunteer broderers (embroiderers) and bell ringers of the 1930s. They trained 200 volunteers to produce 600 cushions and kneelers. There are descriptions of many parts of the Cathedral and we are



introduced to Louisa Pesel and Sybil Blunt as well as the fictional heroine Violet.

**Hilary Mantel** brings the Tudor Bishop Stephen Gardiner to life in her trilogy

‘Wolf Hall’. She portrays the loathing that develops between the Bishop and Cromwell with her superb use of language. There was nothing warm about Gardiner, and there is also a portrayal of Wriothesley.

Rosey finished her full and interesting talk with this quote.

*“What on earth could be more luxurious than a sofa, a book and a cup of coffee? Was ever anything so civil?”*

**Anthony Trollope**



## **Licoricia aka Licorica of Winchester – Janet Backhouse**

It would be remiss if this publication were not to include the recognition of a local lady who was a significant contributor to the history of Winchester.

On February 10<sup>th</sup> a beautiful statue imagining Licoricia of Winchester, with one of her sons - Asher, (Asser) was unveiled. Sadly, as a result of Covid 19, not by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales as had been planned, although he subsequently visited to see the installation.

The statue can be viewed in Jewry Street, formerly known as ‘Scowrtenestret’ (Shoemakers’ Street), although frequently referred to as Vicus Judeorum or Jewry street.





A maquette of Licoricia of Winchester, by Ian Rank-Broadley. Photo courtesy of Ian Rank-Broadley and the Licoricia of Winchester Appeal. A small change was made for the final casting with the document in her right hand rather than at her feet.

The road became Jewry Street in 1302 shortly after the expulsion of the Jews in

1290; it has kept this name ever since, apart from a brief spell in the mid-18th century when it was known as Gaol Street, after the location of the Bridewell.

The statue is located outside the Discovery Centre (Arc) where once stood a property belonging to Isaac of Newbury and his wife. Isaac was involved in the wool trade. Fifteenth century documentation lists the occupants of three medieval properties in Jewry Street as weavers, labourers, poor men, carpenters, a book binder, a tinker and a widow. (Could that have been Licoricia?)



Licoricia, daughter of Isaac, was the most notable English-Jewish woman of her time. Born towards the beginning of the thirteenth century, and named meaning 'sweet' and 'root', she was married twice. On the death of her first husband, Abraham, son of Isaac of Kent and Winchester, she continued to live in Winchester with their three sons, Cokerel (Isaac), Benedict (Baruch), and Lumbard, and perhaps a daughter, Belia.

The first documented evidence of Licoricia's lending activities is from the early 1230s, when the records show that she lent money in association with other Jews, as well as by herself with an attorney. By the end of that decade, she was one of the richest Jewish moneylenders in Winchester. Many Jews were engaged in usury, (lending money for interest), and they acted as a quasi-bank for the King. Because of this, anyone harming a Jew was answerable directly to the King, giving rise to the term 'the King's Jews'. This meant they were allowed to trade and practise their religion, but had to pay large taxes (tallages) to the King, for living, working and worshipping in the country. Any Jew over the age of 12 had to pay 7 Shillings annually to remain in the country, (this money went to support Jewish converts to Christianity). The Bank of England calculates this at about £500 today. On Licoricia's statue you can see a tallage demand in her right hand.

Licoricia married for a second time in 1242 to one of the wealthiest of all English Jews of that time, David of Oxford. To marry her David had to divorce his first wife, Muriel. A complex legal battle ensued, involving David, Muriel, and her supporters, an English bet din, (Jewish tribunal empowered to adjudicate cases involving criminal, civil, or religious law) the Paris bet din, King Henry III of England and the Archbishop of York, Walter de Grey. After the

divorce and Licoricia's marriage to David, she settled in Oxford, where she gave birth to their son, Asser, also called Sweetman or Sweteman. There she assisted David in his business dealings.

When David died only two years later, all the chests across the country which contained official records of the debts owed to him, were sealed and taken to the Jewish Exchequer in London for assessment. In order to prevent any attempt at interference by Licoricia, she was imprisoned in the Tower of London until this process was completed. The price of her repurchases of all the debts owed to David was set at five thousand marks, of which four thousand was to go to the special exchequer established at Westminster Abbey for the building of a chapel to house a new shrine to Edward the Confessor (1003–1066).

A Mark was a measure of silver, 8 ounces in weight. This was equivalent to 13/d, two thirds of a pound. (One Mark = 13/d, 20/ = £1). At that time a knight received around 2 Shillings a day, a kitchen servant around 2 Shillings a year. The fine was approx. equivalent to £1303 in 2022 – a vast sum of money in 1244. In spite of the huge fine she had paid, Licoricia had been left in control of enough wealth—both her own and David's— to enable her to engage in substantial and widespread business activities.

In September 1244, she returned to live with her family in Winchester carrying on David's enterprises and started new ones of her own. She remained an active moneylender for the next thirty years or more. Many of her clients were members of the royal family, the aristocracy, and the Church. She also lent to other Jews, local landowners, and small farmers. Her name frequently appears in the financial

records of the time, the Calendar of Rolls of the Jewish Exchequer and in other official records, often with one of her sons, in disputes over business matters. Her business dealings extended over southern and southwestern England and, until her later years, she moved regularly around the country managing her assets.

She attended King Henry's court whenever he was in Winchester, and dealt with the King himself, who seemed to have had a soft spot for her, and helped in some of her more spurious activities. In 1253, when the heir of Sir Thomas of Charlecote took Licoricia to court for retaining custody of his late father's estate, which had been pledged to her, the King had given her permission to occupy it for three times longer than the time permitted. Sir Thomas tried to remove her from the jurisdiction of the court but was not successful. However, Licoricia was found guilty, but before the court could arrive at its own penalty, the King himself interceded to limit her fine to one half a mark. Approx. 6/4d A mark was never a physical amount of money represented by a coin, but was a common amount used for accounting purposes.

Licoricia's access to the King was an asset to the Jewish community, and they often asked her to intercede for them. In 1258, Belia of Bedford, another Jewish moneylender who had been a partner of Licoricia's in a Winchester deal in 1234, sent Licoricia a precious gold ring as a gift to the King. However, Licoricia's access to the King may have created jealousy, as the ring was mislaid, and Ivetta, a neighbour, accused Licoricia of stealing it. Licoricia was again sent to the Tower while the accusation was investigated. She was released when Ivetta herself was found to have been the thief.

In 1277 Belia, Licoricia's daughter, found the bodies of Licoricia and of Alice of Bicton, her Christian maid, stabbed to death in Licoricia's home in Winchester, possibly murdered during a robbery. The amount stolen was rumoured to be the unlikely sum of ten thousand pounds. The authorities were concerned more with the theft of the property before it could be assessed, than with the murder. Several men were accused of the theft, and a poor saddler who had fled the city was named as the murder suspect by the local tribunal. However, there is no record of the saddler or anyone else being tried and found guilty.

Licoricia was probably buried in the Jewish cemetery at Winchester.

She left a substantial legacy in the form of her son Benedict, (or Baruch to give him his Hebrew name) who was one of the most powerful and influential Jewish businessmen of his time. He is thought to have been the only Jew ever to become elected to a guild in medieval England. He became a chirographer of Winchester, a role which required him to witness and record the financial transactions of the city. Benedict was clearly well educated and trusted. His fortunes began to ebb, however, when his main protector, King Henry III, died in 1272. Edward I had a different attitude towards Jews. His *1275 Statute of Jewry* brought about devastatingly punishing measures that coincided with the rising tide of civil intolerance towards Jews; these often erupted into attacks on Jewish communities. In the short term, Benedict continued to do well, becoming the King's Assessor of Jewish Tallages (taxes) in London, and he was the Keeper of the Queen's gold, ensuring she received her share of Jewish tax. However, his success did not last and contemporary accounts indicate that he made a few too many enemies along the way. Along with many others, he

was accused of coin clipping, a capital offence. His royal connections chose not to negotiate on his behalf and he was executed by hanging.

## References

The Jewish Women's Archive: Shalvi/Hyman Encyclopaedia of Jewish Women <https://jwa.org/encyclopedia>

<https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/monetary-policy/inflation/inflation-calculator>

<https://licoricia.org/sculpture/>

For further interesting information about Winchester's Jewish history, visit

<https://www.winchester.ac.uk/media/content-assets/documents/rke-documents/MJW-walk-information-brochure.pdf> and

<https://www.hampshire-history.com/winchester-jewish-community/>



## Julia's Jottings

It is with great regret that I have to report Julia has decided to put the cap on her pen and stop jotting her interesting archaeological notes. With her permission, and in recognition of the time she has provided the jottings, this section will continue to be called Julia's Jottings.

If you have any small items you would like to jot about, please do send them to the Editor.

## **Archaeologists solve mystery of 'bowling alley' under Fountains Abbey.**

Fountains Abbey was a hive of industrial activity during the medieval period, according to new research.

Archaeologists have discovered that the mysterious underground "bowling alley" structure just to the east of the ruined abbey is the buried remains of a medieval tannery,



**Remains of the buildings and other structures from the medieval tannery.**

(Image credit: Visualising Heritage, University of Bradford)

where animal hides were processed into leather — it was a major commercial centre which would have employed hundreds of people. Although the site is thought of as the abbey ruins, it was really an area very much focused on industry, noisy and smelly."

The ruins have been explored since 2014, and often used to train in non-invasive mapping techniques, and the long bowling alley-shaped structure was first detected a few years ago in a geophysical survey.

Recent work has established a tannery once covered the entire valley floor around the abbey.

There were two large stone buildings, one at least 100 feet (30 meters), a single story tall, with lined pits, tanks and other structures. The buildings were also beside the River Skell which would have provided the water needed by the tannery.

Fountains Abbey was founded in A.D. 1132 by 13 Benedictine monks expelled from an abbey in the city of York after a riot there. They subsequently joined the Cistercian order and the establishment grew into one of the wealthiest monasteries in England.

By 1170 60 monks and 200 lay brothers lived there. They included stonemasons, smiths and tanners, essential to the economy of the abbey but insufficiently educated to take holy orders.

In 1539, the English crown seized the abbey during the dissolution of the monasteries by Henry VIII and sold the lands off to friends of the king.

The tannery would have used animal hides from the abbey's many farms. Sometimes hides were partially putrefied during processing, and some treatments used urine and dung, which contributed to the terrible smell that tanneries are infamous for.

Eventually, the leather would have been used for clothing, furnishings, bedding, bookbinding and the vellum or parchment that the monastic scribes used to copy religious texts.

There are no plans to excavate the structure, and they will remain buried.

## **A Roman villa containing a rare mosaic that depicts scenes from Homer's Iliad has been found beneath a farmer's field in Rutland.**

The mosaic has been described as the first example of its kind in the UK. It was discovered by the landowner's son and investigated by archaeologists from the University of Leicester. Historic England described the mosaic as "one of the most remarkable and significant... ever found in Britain".



Clearing  
the  
Mosaic

©  
Historic  
England

The  
mosaic  
and

surrounding villa complex have now been protected as a Scheduled Monument by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) on the advice of Historic England. The complex is thought to have been occupied by a wealthy individual from the late Roman period.

Jim Irvine made the discovery after spotting "unusual pottery" on a walk during the 2020 lockdown, and contacted the archaeological team at Leicestershire County Council. He said: "My family have been farming this land for 50 or 60 years.... To see something that has been undisturbed for 1700 years or so has been amazing". Historic England funded urgent excavation work at the site by the University of Leicester.



The mosaic, which forms the floor of what was thought to be a triclinium i.e., dining or entertaining area of the villa, measures 11m x 7m (36ft x 23ft). Mosaics were regularly used in private and public buildings across the Roman Empire, and often featured famous figures from mythology. However, the Rutland mosaic is thought to be unique in the UK as it features Achilles and his battle with Hektor at the conclusion of the Trojan War. For now, the mosaic has been backfilled. It's been well protected for more than a millennium and a half beneath a 2ft (0.6m) layer of soil, and it won't come to any further harm now it's back underground. This will also prevent unauthorised interference with the site.

#### The battle between Achilles and Hektor The Iliad Book XX11



Decisions  
about its  
long-  
term  
future  
haven't  
been  
made yet  
as the site

is so big that only a tiny part of the complex has been excavated, and there are likely to be more discoveries in the digging seasons to come. The mosaic is considered unique because of the scenes it depicts. Investigations have revealed the large villa is surrounded by barns, circular structures and possibly a bath house, and the complex is likely to have been occupied by someone with a knowledge of classical literature, between the 3rd and 4th Century AD. This was a wealthy landowner with the money to commission a piece of such detail. Further excavations are planned on the site in

2022. The field will no longer be used for farming so the area can be protected.



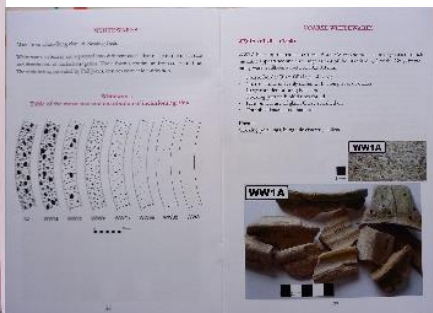
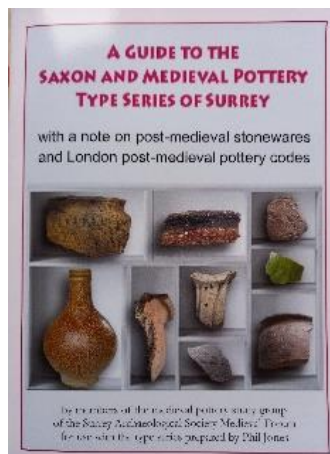
## **Book Reviews**

### **A Guide to the Saxon and Medieval Pottery Types of Surrey – Mike Brace**

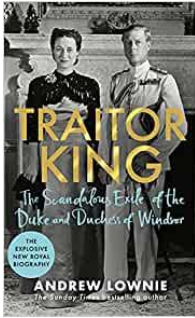
By members of the Surrey Archaeology Society medieval study group, using the type series by Phil Jones.

This excellent 40pp A5 guide, describes the Surrey UK pottery types and their fabric codes, both in descriptive text, with accurate fabric photographs and circa date ranges. Most useful for ceramicists both at desk and in the field.

Copies are available at £5 + £1 p&p by cheque from The Librarian, Surrey Archaeology Society, Hackhurst lane, Abinger Hammer, Surrey RH5 6SE.



**Traitor King – The Scandalous Exile of the Duke and Duchess of Windsor – Andrew Lownie Pub Blink Publishing ISBN – Janet Backhouse**



In this year of the platinum Jubilee of the accession of Elizabeth the Second, it is interesting to look at how this little girl, niece to the King, became one of the most respected and the longest serving Monarch of Great Britain.

Born into the Royal Family in 1929, adored granddaughter of the reigning King, as the daughter of a younger son, she had every expectation of growing up to be the Farmer's wife she wanted to be, and to live on a farm in Scotland, with her horses and dogs.

As it so often does, fate decided otherwise, and this was not to be. When her Uncle acceded, he decided to change the rules and to conduct himself as he wished to do, (his emphasis in the abdication speech), which was not in the role of a conventional Monarch, rather as what was then called a 'Playboy'. His rapid abdication pushed Elizabeth forward into the role of Heir Apparent, and sadly, probably hastened the demise of her father who had reluctantly to take on the mantle of King.

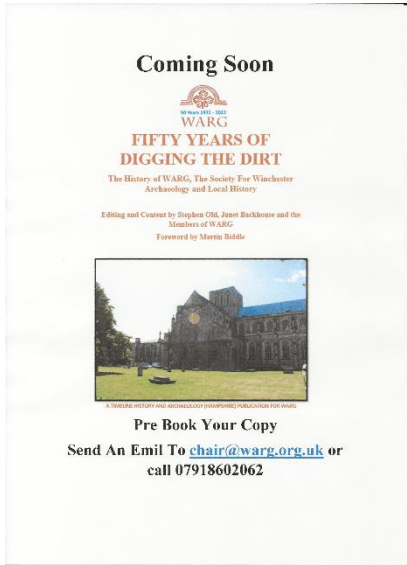
The renowned biographer Andrew Lownie, who has written on many persons' lives, including the Mountbattens, has now addressed the Life of the Duke of Windsor (otherwise Edward Eighth) and his consort, Wallis Warfield Simpson. This book presents an eye-opening critique of the apparent selfishness and egocentricity of this couple and the risks to which they exposed the people of Britain.

As always it is well researched and evidenced as well as being a fascinating insight into what might have been had Edward not abdicated.

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## Coming Soon



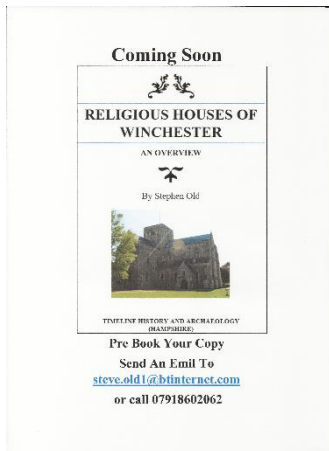
*The History of WARG over 50 glorious years.*

*How and Why, WARG was formed and where it is today.*

*Publication date and price to be announced.*

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## **Walks and Talks Programme**

**Monday 11 April 2022 'The Hursley Dig 2021** David Ashby, Researcher University of Winchester and Stuart Rippon WARG Dig Committee

**Monday 9 May 2022 'A Review of Recent Archaeological Investigations in Southampton'** by Dr. Andy Russell, Southampton City Council Archaeological Unit

It is yet to be decided if these will be Zoom or Hybrid events.

Now we are able to meet up again, we appreciate that many people remain vulnerable, and the virus is not yet under firm control. We should, therefore like to know if you would attend a real time event or if you would continue with Zoom.

As you see we have not, as yet, been able to bring you details of further talks and events for 2022. Although Dr. Amanda Richardson will be giving another fascinating talk, on her further work at Clarendon Park, which had been planned for her December talk, but was delayed for further information to be analysed. Date to be announced.

Is anyone able to suggest speakers for the 2022/23 season? Members are welcome to share their expertise, via Zoom or in person.

## **Summer Programme**

We should also like to hear about events you might like us to consider for Summer 2022. Also, how we should celebrate the Anniversary. Any ideas please let me know at [wargnews@gmail.com](mailto:wargnews@gmail.com)

Possible suggestions - A trip to The Mary Rose Museum

A trip to Bletchley Park Museum

Do you want a Summer Picnic?

We would need to know numbers interested before looking at costing any such event.



## WARG Committee 2020

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While you enjoy your Easter Egg do spare a thought for the Easter Bunnies – those eggs can be heavy, but like all good communities they pull together. Thanks to everyone who pulled together to find Margaret's wedding ring.

