



NEWSLETTER

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www.dacorumheritage.org.uk

MEET OUR MAN MARK

A Greek surname, Italian family born in London, brought up in South Wales and educated in Liverpool it's no wonder Mark gets confused.

Mark moved to the area over twenty years ago when he became an Articled Clerk at Wainwright and Stevens based in the Old High Street in Hemel Hempstead. Mark stayed with the practice on qualification until he moved on to Machins in 1996. "It was a real wrench to leave Wainwrights – I'd made a lot of good friends but the time had come to move on".

Since joining his current practice Machins Solicitors in Luton, Mark is now the head of the Company Commercial team within the practice. He enjoys new challenges and is now assisting in the firm's Aviation Department.

He now lives in Bovingdon with his wife and two children. "They're great for me – I may be losing my hair but I don't think I'd have any left if it weren't for them".

Mark first became involved with the Dacorum Heritage Trust in March last year as Company Secretary, replacing Gordon Hodgson, who sadly resigned due to ill health. Mark will freely admit it's been a steep learning curve since joining Dacorum Heritage Trust. "It's always a challenge coming into a new organisation where everyone knows everyone else already and you're still struggling to get to grips with what needs doing and what's best left as it is – fortunately everybody's been extremely patient even though they are probably fed up with my endless questions".

He claims his interest in history probably stems from being dragged to what felt like virtually every castle in South Wales as a child. My Father represented Wales in clay pigeon shooting and was often away. My mother was left to find ways of trying to stop my brother and I killing each other over the weekend, making us climb to the top of one castle after another meant we were too exhausted to fight most of the time.

Away from work Mark enjoys watching Spurs play football, Wales play rugby and occasionally playing tennis very badly.

Recently, Mark helped out by acting as Quizmaster at the annual Dacorum Heritage Trust's fundraising Quiz Night. "I'd never done that sort of thing before but everyone was very helpful and all the teams seemed to enjoy themselves. It would be great if we could get a team from each of the constituent societies along to the next one in the New Year, and to create a bit of friendly competition".



*Mark Pelopida
Company Secretary, The Dacorum Heritage Trust Ltd.*

Bingo Night Saturday 8th October at Hemel Hempstead Community Church

Tickets Only £5 each, doors open at 7.00 pm. for 7.30 pm. start.

Prizes were generously donated by organisations including WH Smiths, Berkhamsted Arts & Crafts and Sainsbury's.

*Come along, have some **FUN** and Support our Fundraising.*

THE DACORUM HERITAGE TRUST LIMITED

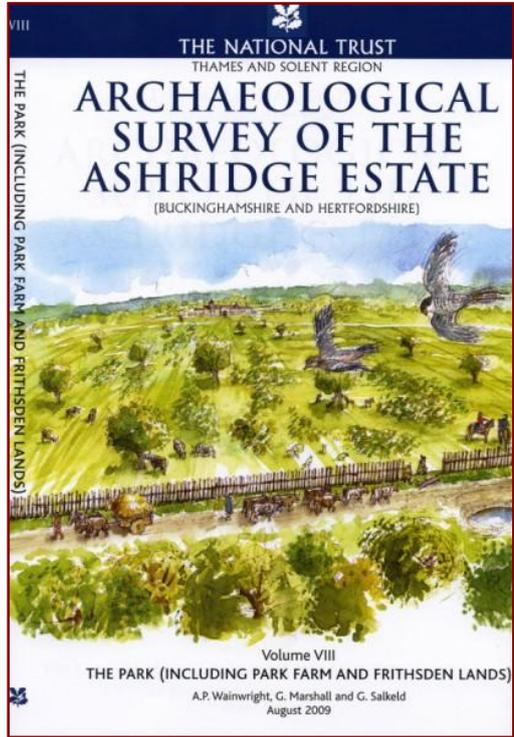
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF ASHRIDGE II

A review of the first volume (covering area A but numbered II in the series) of a mammoth archaeological survey was published in the September 2009 issue of the Dacorum Heritage Trust's Newsletter. The Thames and Solent region of the National Trust undertook the survey of its Ashridge Estates. Undertaken between 1985 and 1989 it was a former Manpower Services Commission scheme that was to form part of an ambitious project to cover all National Trust properties. Due to the scale of the project it was never completed and had to wait for twenty years before the first volume was published.



The object of the survey was to record the location and extent of all archaeological features together with their condition within the study area. All available information both physical and documentary was to be collated for the final publication.

The first volume covered Ivinghoe Beacon, Steps Hill and Incombe Hole and was to be the first of a total of eleven volumes covering the whole estate. A second volume (number VIII) covering Ashridge Park, including Park Farm and Frithsden lands has recently made its appearance. As in the previous volume this report is divided into two parts. Part A covers the text of the report giving the background, historical information and the documentary evidence. The period covered begins in the 13th Century and continues up to the date of the survey. Part B is a gazetteer of the various monuments within the area covered and includes the site location, a physical description and a management recommendation as to the maintenance of the feature. As with the previous volume there are maps and illustrations, which complement the text.

This particular volume was published at a very opportune moment. During June and July 2010 the Berkhamsted and District Archaeological Society was involved in a resistivity survey within the gardens of Ashridge House. As a copy of this volume had been deposited in The Dacorum Heritage Trust collection, carrying out research for the resistivity survey was made that much easier.

*Ken Wallis
Berkhamsted & District Archaeological Society*

The Book: A P Wainwright, G Marshall and G Salkeld. "Archaeological Survey of the Ashridge Estate (Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire) Volume VIII Area G The Park (including Park Farm and Frithsden Lands)" The National Trust, Thames and Solent Region, 2010. 235pp, 92 colour and black/white illustrations.

MIKE WILSON

Mike Wilson who was our Webmaster for almost three years passed away recently after a long battle against brain cancer.

Mike took on the task of web master with little or no experience and was responsible for rescuing and re ordering our web site which had suffered from the "too many cooks" syndrome for a number of years. With the experience gained Mike went on to look after several sites for friends and in one case a commercial site. He was a stickler for getting things correct according to international standards for web design and hand-coded his sites directly rather than relying on software to do it for him. He also constructed three of our present day computers in his spare time.

Mike spent his life in electronics design engineering in a variety of industries and before retirement was working as designer for Nokia mobile base stations. He was a firm believer in the use of first principles and wrote a number of design manuals on radio, and associated electronics design particularly transmitter design.

Mike's practical electronics skills were brought into play at home, too; his elder son wanted to compose modern music and Mike built for him all of the modern synchronisers, recorders etc used in a music studio and to a higher specification to those available commercially. Stephen has gone on to become an internationally successful musician and says he owes it all to Dad.



Mike was a member of Redbourn Golf Club, Boxmoor and District Probus Club but most of all he was a much loved family man who enjoyed a practical joke.

Our sympathies are with Maureen, Stephen and Roger at this time.

John Croft

IMAGES FROM DHT'S COLLECTION

We thought you would like to see a couple of early 20th Century images inspiring outdoor activities.



Left: Apsley Cricket Club in Salmon Meadow, with St. Mary's Church, Apsley in the background, taken about 1900. **Right:** Postcard of Leverstock Green Scouts in front of a rustic hut, taken about 1908, by Edward Sammes, who was a well-known Box Moor photographer.

CURATOR'S CORNER

Bingo Night. Come along and bring your friends and family and support our first ever fundraising Bingo Night at Hemel Hempstead Community Church, Boxmoor on **Saturday 8th October**. Tickets are **only £5** each, which includes all the game cards for evening. We have fantastic prizes kindly donated by Berkhamsted Arts & Crafts, Sainsbury's and WH Smith amongst others. Tickets available from the Curator cheques payable to 'Dacorum Heritage Trust'. Refreshments will be available.



Bygone Days – Towns & Villages of Dacorum, 2012 Calendar. We have produced a beautiful calendar featuring images from towns and villages across Dacorum. You can order some for excellent Christmas gifts and help us to raise much-needed funds. Only **£7.99** each (Plus £1.50 P&P); to order yours, please contact the Curator, cheques made payable to 'Dacorum Heritage Trust'. We would like to thank Strongs Printing & Photocopying Services of Berkhamsted (www.strongsprinting.co.uk) and 'Our Dacorum' website who have both generously sponsored our calendar. Available soon, but you can pre-order now.

Car Parking changes for visitors to The Museum Store. From 31st August Berkhamsted Police are moving into their new offices in the Civic Centre, this will mean that car parking at the rear of the Civic Centre will be by permit only. This will have an adverse impact on volunteers, visitors and researchers coming to The Museum Store. We do not know the full implications yet, and will keep those involved informed.

Our Dacorum. The Our Dacorum project, www.ourdacorum.org.uk, led by Hertfordshire Archives and Libraries, Dacorum Heritage Trust and local volunteers is collecting and preserving memories of the local area that might otherwise be lost. If you have any photos or stories of your life in Dacorum, just log into the website to add your words and pictures.

New volunteers are always welcome. Volunteers help edit, design and promote the website. Free training is provided and no previous experience is required. We meet once a month at Hemel Hempstead library. We are a friendly bunch and tea, coffee and biscuits seem to help the meetings go with a swing.



If you are interested in finding out more about the site and how to add your photos and memories we will be in the Marlowes, Hemel Hempstead, between 10.00 am. – 4.00 pm. on Saturday 17th September. We hope to see you there, your memories are important to us.

HERITAGE DIARY 2011 - 2012

Heritage Open Days Thursday 8th – Sunday 11th September

Berkhamsted Events organised by Berkhamsted Local History & Museum Society, to book Berkhamsted tours contact Jenny Sherwood (01442 865158or KSherw9100@aol.com).

National Film & TV Archive, Kingshill. Guided tours at 10:30 & 11:30 on Thu 8th August. Booking essential.

Ashlyns School (Foundling Hospital). Sun 13:00 - 17:30, tours by former foundlings 13:30 & 15:45. Booking essential.

St. Mary's Church, Northchurch. Sun tours at 14:30 & 15:30. Original parish church of Berkhamsted St. Mary.

St. John the Evangelist Church, Bourne End. Sun 14:30 - 16:00. Built in 1855 designed by Gilbert Scott.

Claire Lloyd Properties, 173 High Street. Sun 10:30 - 16:00. Regular tours of the oldest urban timber framed building.

St. Peter's Church & Court House. Sun tour at 15:00. 13th Century church and Tudor Court House.

Berkhamsted School, Old Hall & Chapel. Sun tours 10:30 & 14:30. The Old Hall was built in 1544 is the original schoolhouse. The Chapel, designed by C.H. Rew, and was based on the church of Santa Maria dei Miracoli, Venice.

St. Michael & All Angels Church, Sunnyside. Sun 14:00 - 16:00. Frequent Tours, dated 1910, with origins from 1880s.

Berkhamsted Town Hall. Sun 10:15 - 13:30. Tour at 11:30. Built in 1859 to replace the market house, which was destroyed by fire, it also includes a community hall, rooms for the Mechanics' Institute and a photographic exhibition.

Berkhamsted Castle. Sun tours 10:30, 12:30 & 15:00. A royal residence and the UK's best remaining motte and bailey castle.

Tring Events organised by Tring & District Local History & Museum Society.

Tring Town Trail. Sat, meet 14:30 at Tring Local History Museum, Brook Street. Guided walk (approx. 2 hours).

Tring Park Walk. Sun, meet 14:30 at Natural History Museum, Akeman Street. Bracing walk around 300 acres of parkland.

Constituent Society Winter Season of Lectures and Events.

September 2011

7 (HM) Selection of the IAC's best club films.

14 (BH) 'Housing Deserving Poor in Hertfordshire Almshouses & their Inmates' Dr. Kate Thompson.

15 (B) 'Partnership in the Past' Judy Faraday.

21 (T) 'A History of Tring's Bus Services' John Savage.

21 (HM) 'Film in an Evening'.

22 (BA) 'Prison at Norman Cross – A Time Team Investigation' Paul Chamberlain.

28 (HH) 'To be a Pilgrim, Faith & Archaeology' Peter Clayton.

29 (GG) 14th International Graham Greene Festival.

October

1 & 2 (GG) 14th International Graham Greene Festival.

5 (HM) Open Evening, demonstrations for visitors.

12 (BH) 'The BBC in Wartime' Stephen Barnard.

19 (HM) 'Can "Film in an Evening" result in a film?'

19 (KL) 'Women's Land Army' Stella Chandler.

20 (B) 'Secret Squadrons in WWII' Pat Carty.

21 (KL) 'Battle of Arnhem plans at Moor Park' Alan Jamieson.

26 (HH) 'Johannes Gutenberg on the Story of Print'.

27 (BA) 'Trojan War in Greek & Roman Art' Peter Clayton.

November

2 (HM) Lecture by Dennis Kelly.

16 (KL) 'Papermaking in Hertfordshire' Michael Stanyon.

16 (T) 'Christopher Wren & his World' Colin Oakes.

16 (BH) 'Battles pre-Hastings impacted on events' C. Jones.

17 (B) 'The Gunpowder Plot' Richard Thomas.

23 (HH) 'A Transport & Travel Film Evening' Alan Wilmot.

24 (BA) 'Woodworking in the Stone Age' Laurie Elvine.

December

7 (HM) Comedy Competition with St. Albans Club.

14 (BH) Social - Film, Quiz & items from Society Collection.

15 (B) 'The Pantomime Story' Alan Ruston.

15. (BA) 'Turnershall Farm: Roman Landscape, Lea Valley' Simon West.

21 (HM) Film to a Christmas Song.

January 2012

4 (HM) Alan Willmott Entertains – films from his collection.

18 (KL) 'Caring for Hertfordshire Churches' Patrick Leeper.

18 (T) 'Local Convicts & their Victims 1770–1870' Ken Griffin.

18 (BH) 'Sir Ernest Lemon of Northchurch Hall' Terry Jenkins.

18 (HM) '1 Minute Film' Competition & Triangle club entries.

February

15 (HM) Review of candidates for our Triangle entry.

15 (BH) 'Open Wide: Short History of Dentistry' M. Parker.

15 (KL) 'Royal Palace of Kings Langley' Richard Boustred.

23 (BA) 'Museum Store & Acquisitions' Isobel Aptaker.

March

7 (HM) Harrow Club show a selection of their films.

14 (BH) 'The Bayeux Tapestry' Bill Willett.

21 (KL) 'History of a Garden in the Estate' Oonagh Kennedy.

21 (T) 'Wigginton: the Whole Story' Richard Tregoning.

21 (HM) Competition – 'Documentary'.

22 (BA) 'Piddington Roman Villa Update' R. Friendship-Taylor.

April

26 (BA) 'What is Post Medieval Archaeology?' Jaqui Pearce.

Contact Details – for more information see the society websites

(BA) Berkhamsted & Dist. Archaeological Society (www.berkhamstedarchaeo.org.uk) - Ken Wallis 01442 877592.

(BH) Berkhamsted Local History & Museum Society (www.berkhamsted-history.org.uk) - Jenny Sherwood 01442 865158.

(B) Bovingdon History Group - Sylvia McClelland – 01442 833136.

(GG) Graham Greene Birthplace Trust (www.grahamgreenebt.org/index.php) - Colin Garrett 01442 866694.

(KL) Kings Langley Local History & Museum Society (www.kingslangley.org.uk) - Richard Garnett Harper 01923 263205.

(HH) Hemel Hempstead Local History & Museum Society (www.hemelhistory.bravehost.com) - Roy Wood 01442 398285.

(HM) Hemel Hempstead Movie Makers (www.hemelmoviemakers.org.uk) – Byron Welch 01442 398285.

(T) Tring & Dist. Local History & Museum Society (www.oldtring.co.uk) – Marianne Vinson 01525 384899.



Visit the Local History website to read the latest articles.

The Dacorum History Digest

www.dacorumhistory.bravehost.com



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**DACORUM
BOROUGH
COUNCIL**

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