## **NEWSLETTER**



## Newsletter of the Broseley Local History Society

INCORPORATING THE WILKINSON SOCIETY

Aug – 2023 Issue: 58

#### **MEETINGS**

Meetings of the Broseley Local History Society are normally held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm at the Broseley Social Club, High Street, unless otherwise announced.

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## **BLHS Programme**

PLEASE NOTE: To avoid any inconvenience, check the BLHS website to confirm, prior to attending, that the event is still going ahead.

#### Programme of talks

Sept. 6 – *Red Church update*, Graham Hollox

Oct. 4 – *The Coalport Ferry Disaster*, Bob Herrick

Nov. 1 - The Adventurous History of Sabrina Sidney, Kate Croft (joint with IGM Friends,

Coalbrookdale)

Dec. 6 - Annual Dinner 2024

Jan .3 - Broseley Church Bells, Ginette Pardoe

Feb .7 – The Closure of our Local Monasteries, Neil Clarke

Mar. 6 - *John Wilkinson, part 2*, Richard Sells (Annual Wilkinson Lecture).

Neil Clarke 22<sup>nd</sup>. July 2023

#### **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

**New Members: TBA** 

Subscriptions to the Society can be paid either in cash or by cheque.

#### What's On Elsewhere?

Broseley /Local History Society is affiliated to the British Association for Local History and receives every quarter their newsletter and Journal, both of which are available at our meetings (the Local History News is also available online at the BALH website)

#### **BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR LOCAL HISTORY NEWS**

'When change happens, we quickly forget what used to be' writes Alan Crosby, relating to what has become an almost continuous change / turnover on our High Streets, the increase in charity shops and closing of bank branches. These physical and social changes need to be recorded not only in photographs but memories too. Get jotting down your memories - NOW!!!

Jane Howells editor of the LHN for over 20 years has handed her pen/keyboard to Andrew Chapman.

The Battle (as in Hastings) History Society has instigated a road names project, as increasingly it seemed old names were being replaced and then their meanings forgotten; the society wished to record the meanings before they were lost forever, particularly where personal names were concerned; check out their web site <a href="https://www.battlehistorysociety.com/Road&20names">www.battlehistorysociety.com/Road&20names</a>. Perhaps Broseley should do - the same any takers?

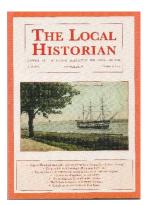
Local History Live an on-line event for Saturday 16 September 2023; the theme is interwar Britain see BALH website for details Newport (Shropshire) History Society is researching the historic inns and alehouses in the

town to create both a walking guide and contribute to the VCH Red Book.

Shropshire Archives Fire Office 1780-1889 project volunteers are creating an index of fire insurance documents, which will be incorporated into the on-line catalogue.

#### THE LOCAL HISTORIAN

The academic articles include 'Roger of Hereford: the 12<sup>th</sup> century astronomer who put Hereford on the Map'. Book reviews: Gareth Williams, (Curator & Head of Learning at Weston Park), a book on 'Weston Park: the House, the families and its influence'; and 'Bricks of Victorian London, 'A social and economic history' by Peter Hounsell, although not directly connected to Shropshire maybe of interest to researchers of our own brick & tile industries. A very reasonably priced (£16.99), 'Researching Local History – Your Guide to the Sources' by Stuart A. Raymond, hopes to make aware to 'wide ranges of written sources available' to the English local history researcher. And finally, don't forget the British Association for Local History website, there are always interesting 'bits & pieces'.





Janet Doody 7th. June 2023

#### PREVIOUS MEETINGS AND EVENTS

#### Newport Visit 7<sup>th</sup>. June 2023

This is the direct link to the pictures taken during the visit to Newport.

There are 57 of them in very high resolution. https://www.dropbox.com/sh/z94piwp6lj2bgly/A AALMApj4qUSSkSoZcWsFthEa?dl=1

The pictures are not necessarily in the order of the visit and come in a zip file.

Below are a couple of "Tasters". They are all excellent photographs and well worth looking at!





**IMAGES FROM THE NEWPORT VISIT** 

Jocelyn Barbier 8th. June 2023

#### Visit to Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings 1st. July 2023.

(https://www.shrewsburyflaxmillmaltings.org.uk/)

A very popular destination with a fascinating history and social history!

About 36 of us were given a guided tour in separate groups.

Everyone enjoyed the day out, lots to be learnt from the first iron-framed building in the world, also known as the grand-parent of skyscrapers. It is a history of 2 eras, the flax mill 1797-1897 and the maltings 1897-1987.

The building has been restored for the future and the regeneration project is still on-going. The exhibition centre is brilliant and very interactive, so it suits all generations.

The Turned Wood Café is a welcome respite space that serves drinks and food inside or outside. A strongly recommended visit.



**CAT FLAP FROM THE MALTINGS PERIOD** ONE OF THE GROUPS



**ON-GOING WORK** 



**OUTSIDE BUILDING** 



RESTORED MAIN BUILDING



TOP FLOOR



VIEW FROM THE COURTYARD

Jocelyne Barbier 30th. July 2023

#### **ARTICLES**

## **Coronation of King Charles III**



Did anyone go to a garden party to celebrate the coronation? Chris and I went to one slotted perfectly in on Sunday making the most of the lovely weather! On display were two 1953 castiron moneybox coronation crowns given to the hostess and her sister at a coronation parade

party at St. Leonard's Infant School, Dawley; older children received a copy of the New Testament. The 8-page supplement of coronation memories in the Shropshire Star included photos of a party in the TA Hut, that was adjacent to the Madeley Modern School (anyone remember that?) and also one in the function room of the Foresters Arms, Broseley.

Did you attend any of these parties? Did you receive a crown moneybox or New Testament, or even the more elaborate 'coronation throne' moneybox? Do you still have your gift and were you disappointed to have the Testament rather than a moneybox?

I would love to hear your story, please get in touch

Janet Doody. Janet.doody27@googlemail.com

#### Janet Doody 15th. May 2023

#### The Hurricane 1895

On Sunday, a terrific gale passed over the town and neighbourhood, exceeding in intensity any previous occurrence of the kind for years past, reaching its height at about 1.30pm., causing considerable damage to house property. Miss Nicholas of field House, had a chimney blown down, doing considerable damage to the roof, through which debris fell into the bedroom. The roof of Burnt House, situate in Cape Street, occupied by Mr W. Moore was also much damaged. Injury was also done to the roof of the Crown Tobacco Pipe works in King Street, and at Prince of Wales Inn, one of the windows, together with the frame, was blown completely out, besides other damage. The house occupied by Mr M Davies, butcher, also sustained injury from the violence of the tempest. Considerable damage was done to the house occupied by Mr W Andrews, Duke Street, the roof being nearly stripped, and a chimney belonging to a house occupied by Thomas Yew fell with a great crash, breaking in the roof, and greatly alarming the inmates and neighbours, who were seen running in all directions seeking shelter from what appeared to them impending danger. The Roman Catholic Chapel, situate in Barber Street, also suffered from the fury of the elements, the porch being wrested from its usual position and carried some little distance away. The garden of Dr. Collins was also visited by the storm which tore up a large tree by the roots and carried it into the street. The Deanery, occupied by Mr Edward Oaks, likewise received considerable damage and many other houses in Broseley and Broseley Wood had chimneys blown down or roofs partly

stripped but providentially no loss of life or injury to person occurred.

WELLINGTON JOURNAL & SHREWSBURY NEWS 30 March 1895

Janet Doody 3<sup>rd</sup>. May 2023

#### **BROSELEY PLAQUES: THE BURNT HOUSE:**



"THE BURNT HOUSE" BROSELEY

In 2011 the Society placed a plaque on "The Burnt House" which stands at the corner of Cape Street, and Queen Street. Today this substantial brick building is made up of 3 residences; 1 and 2 Cape Street and 18 Queen Street; the Broseley Parish Tithe Map of 1838 describes the whole premises as a house, shop, brew-house, and garden, owned by Lord Forester and let to Hiram Hill, an iron-founder and lime merchant.

It is said to get its name from a fire that took place in 1883 as reported in Eddowes' Shrewsbury Journal on 13 June:

Broseley: Destructive Fire: A serious fire took place on Friday afternoon at a House and shop in King Street, [actually Cape Street] in the occupation of Mr James Clarke. It appears that at about 3.30pm a boy, named Harley observed flames bursting out of a first-floor window. He at once raised the alarm, but owing to the difficulty in obtaining a supply of water the fire gained a strong hold of the premises. As soon as possible a fire engine belonging to Messrs. Maw was got to work, and after playing on the building for about an hour the flames were subdued. The origin of the fire is not known.

However, in April 1882, when the property was advertised for sale by Messrs Perry and Phillips at the Lion Hotel it appears to have already been identified as the Burnt House before the fire of 1883, and had also become 3 separate dwellings: All those two commodious and well-built freehold dwelling houses, with front shop, yard and outbuildings called "The Burnt House", situate in

Cape Street and in the respective occupation of Mrs Susan Nicklin and Mr James Clarke, senior. Also, all that dwelling house adjoining the above situate at the corner of Cape Street and Queen Street in the occupation of George Bradley. Mr James Clarke was a furniture dealer at No 1, and Mrs Susan Nicklin, nee Moore was a widow who, on the death of her husband had moved, with her family to live with her father, William Moore. The Nicklin and Moore families continued to live in No. 2 Cape Street until at least 1901, as did George Bradley's family at what was to become No 18 Queen Street. In 1901 John Rowe, a baker and confectioner was in No. 1 Cape Street but later moved to Dawley; by 1911 No. 1 Cape Street was the home of Harry Campbell Plant, a fishmonger, (who later emigrated; to the USA). No. 2 Cape Street become the social club and headquarters for the Broseley Liberal and Labour Association and was occupied by James Edward Hartshorne who was a coal dealer as well as caretaker of the building; he had previously been a landscape artist and Art Master.

In 1921 William Parry was trading as a grocer and confectioner from No 1 Cape Street, and Frederick Oakley, haulage contractor, and his family were living at No. 2; whilst John Goodall, a stationary engine driver at Maw & Co and his family were living at 18 Queen Street. By 1939 Thomas Parry, a retired roofing tile presser and his family were at No. 1 and James Hatton, a retired labourer and his with were at no. 2; although as there were then 13 occupants it seems they were probably renting out rooms.

More details of the Burnt House can be found in the Society's newsletter of August 2011 available on the Broseley Local History Society's website www.broseley.org.uk

#### Sources:

Kelly's Trade Directory 1885
<a href="https://www.ancestry.co.uk">www.ancestry.co.uk</a>
<a href="https://www.wikipedia.org">www.wikipedia.org</a>
<a href="https://www.ancestry.co.uk">Broseley Local History Society</a>

Janet Doody 15th. June 2023

#### **Visit to National Trust Dudmaston**

It's been years since I last visited the Dudmaston Estate, but the recent TV series 'Hidden Treasures of the National Trust' together with the promoted 'Fanology' exhibition (display of fans) prompted a trip.

Dudmaston is known for its collection of Modern Art, and the TV subject was the conservation of 'Spaceframe' a sculpture by Anthony Twentyman

(1906-1988) of Wolverhampton. It is said to resemble the hurricane aircraft struts and like a number of Twentyman's other works contains a scarlet dot, a nod to his time as a Japanese POW. Other sculptures are scattered amongst the gardens of the Hall and well worth a visit. The display of fans, of all ages in the gallery was interesting together with descriptions of their use and meanings!



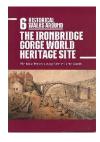
**DUDMASTON 20 MAN SPACEFRAME** 

Janet Doody 4th. July 2023

# NEW BOOK - <u>6 HISTORICAL WALKS AROUND THE IRONBRIDGE GORGE</u>

The Ironbridge Gorge Museum has recently published A5 size book of guided walks; arranged by their Archivist Sarah Roberts, the walks are described as 1. Accessible Ironbridge 2. Coalbrookdale Characters 3. The Money Side 4. Monuments Trail 5. Pits & Pots and 6. Bridges, Boats & Breweries. Most walks vary in length from 1½ miles to 4 miles, but with the last one being 6 miles plus an optional 1½ mile extension; they are described as of moderate terrain, with Accessible Ironbridge being easy. The directions are clear to follow with numbered directions, illustrated with maps and photographs.

It is available from all the museum outlets and priced at £4.00



Janet Doody 18th. May 2023

#### **REV. WYNWARD ALEXANDER WARNER MC**

The Rev. Warner MC was Rector at Broseley from 1922 until his death in 1926, in our newsletter of August 2014 Bill Seabury of the British Legion wrote a book about him that was on sale in the church. The Broseley Local History would love to have a copy SO...... is there anyone out there who does have a copy that they would like to donate OR allow us to make a copy – The society would be very grateful, please contact any committee member

Janet Doody: janet.doody27@googlemail.com



**Rev Warner MC** 

## Janet Doody 19th. May 2023

#### **MAILBOX**

Received from Jocelyne Barbier: BALH Newsletter: Please find below the link to the BALH Summer 2023 e-newsletter:

<a href="https://www.balh.org.uk/?utm\_medium=email-wutm\_source=BALH&utm\_campaign=newsletter-1539">https://www.balh.org.uk/?utm\_medium=email-wutm\_source=BALH&utm\_campaign=newsletter-1539</a>

Paste the link into Google and search to view.

## Jocelyne Barbier 28th. July 2023

Received from Jocelyne Barbier: Local History Photographer of the Year.

Follow the link below to see details of the BALH Competition:

www.balh.org.uk/photo

Jocelyne Barbier July 25th. 2023

### **BLHS Facebook Presence**

Broseley Local History Society has now opened its own public Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/BroseleyLocalHistory Society

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#### **DISTRIBUTION OF NEWSLETTERS**

Thank you to those members who have indicated they would be happy to have electronic copies of the Newsletter. If there are any other members who would prefer it this way please contact the membership secretary, Janet Robinson, email: janetc46.jr.jr@gmail.com

Those of you would prefer to have it in its printed form can continue to look forward to receiving it through the post. Many thanks

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

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