

S.H.S. Newsletter.

The June Newsletter is a 'bumper' issue of 12 A5 pages, some in colour and 8 archive photos.

SCARECROW
COMPETITION
5TH–12TH JULY 2008

Judging will take place on Saturday 12th July
Free Entry

This year's competition will be judged per household
Please Register your Scarecrow and get your entry form at the

"Scarecrow Workshop" 14th June
from 10.30 am on the Knoll
Where Mr Phil Smith and others will be demonstrating the
art of Scarecrow making at 11 am and there will be photos of
previous years' entries to view.
or at Virginia House Stores 

Display your Scarecrow where it can be seen
attaching the entry form to it so it can be judged

Queries phone Mark 216543 or Sheila 211153
for further information

The Judges decision is final

SHERINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
<http://www.mkheritage.co.uk> - sheringtonhs@yahoo.co.uk



No: 62



S.H.S. Newsletter

Discover Milton Keynes



is now open
for business

June 2008

www.mkheritage.co.uk/shhs

PLANT SALE AND SCARECROW DEMONSTRATION

Philip Smith will again give a demonstration of Scarecrow building at the Plant Sale on the 14th June on the Knoll (10am-12:30pm), with the demo being about 11'ish. So please come down and watch the demonstration. The actual competition will be between the 5th and 12th July. Judging will take place on July 12th.



FAR FARM

We recently received an email from Maurice Barratt, who is writing a history of Tickford End, Newport Pagnell. He asked for information about Far Farm and the family of Bertie Bason. Mr. Bason was a cowman at the farm and, according to Mr. Barrett, was buried in St. Laud's Churchyard. Philip Smith was able to give him some information about them and we were able to supply him with a copy of the 1876 Sale Prospectus for the farm. Ray Bailey knows Maurice Barratt well and arranged the copying of the documents: at



the same time making an extra copy to be kept in our archives along with the original. We will try to obtain a copy of Mr. Barratt's book when it is published.

SWELLING THE ARCHIVES

Norman Arnold's son, Bruce, has sorted through a collection of Norman's CDs and Anita has passed at least 30 to Mark.

Some discs / files cannot be read but others contain photographs that we do not have in the archives and at least one has copies of the Edith Lucas paintings as well as the school log books, but unfortunately, some of these files can no longer be read. The Edith Lucas pictures were and can again be used to produce more notelets and cards. These pictures swell our archives considerably and we now hold over 8000 separate items on the electronic archive, with some being published elsewhere in this publication.

New Members:

We welcome two new members – Shirley and David Willis of Gun Lane who have recently joined us.



2

G r a v e s t o n e s

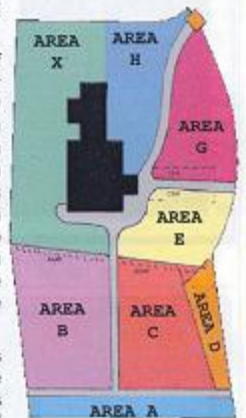
One of the three projects that was announced at the AGM was to photograph all of the Monumental Inscriptions in and around St Lauds Church. We got off to a good start, but could we have chosen a colder evening?

Despite the chill wind a good number of gravestones were photographed and their inscriptions checked and updated. A few graves were also tidied as they were too overgrown to photograph! The photos on members' cameras have mostly been transferred to the SHS computer. There is still more to do, so a date will be fixed in the future for members to come and help one Saturday during the summer. When all the MIs have been photographed we will transfer them onto discs – oh, the wonders of digital photography!

After the chill in the churchyard it was good to find cups of hot tea and coffee waiting and a piece (or two) of Celia's buttered tea cake. Thanks to Celia and those who made the hot drinks!

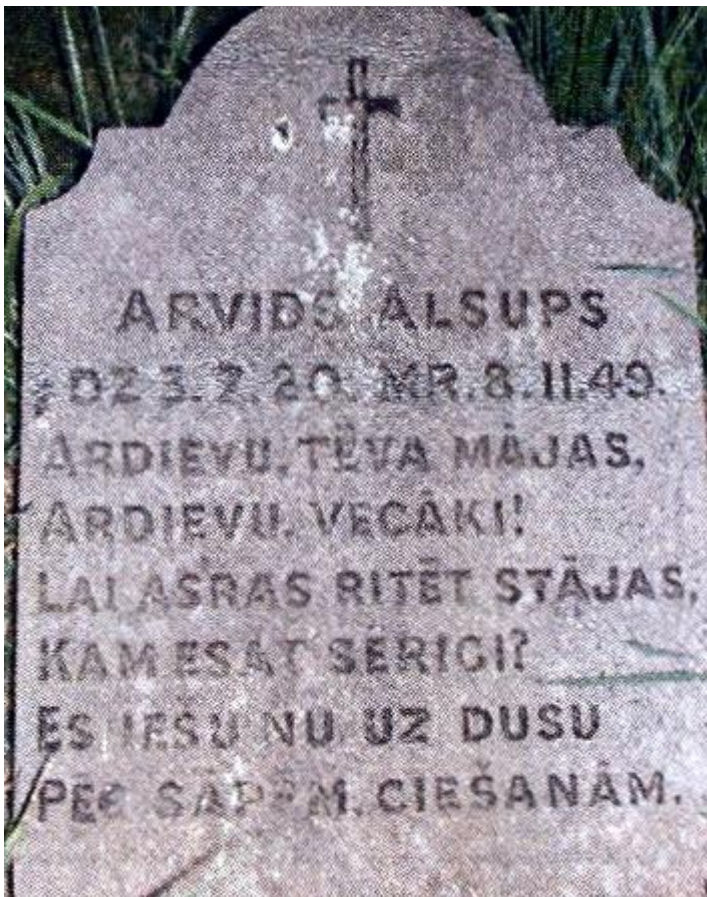
With the help that was given, (see plan above) we have now completely

photographed Areas A, D, E and G. Areas B and X have been started but we have yet to start Area C and H. The work so far completed has presented a couple of queries as two of the headstones are not in English. (see picture left and right). If anyone knows why they are there and/or you are able to translate them we would be very grateful to hear from you.



3





CYCLING FAMILY, HIGH STREET, C.1910



SOUTHERN END OF HIGH STREET, C.1920

Hands To The Pump



EMAILS:

Some of the recent emails that the Society has received or that we need your help on:

WEST EXHUMATION:

From Janet Mears of Knuston with the subject "1935 West body Exhumed" Janet is trying to find the marriage of Edwin West and his wife (seems names vary which makes it difficult to find) and also any children. We have replied advising her that the booklet is out of print at the moment but that we will send her any information we have.

ENGINE FROM ROGERS TRACTOR:

Kathleen Tiernan of Sharpenhoe is trying to trace the records of an old tractor which originated from Rogers of Gt. Barford in 1959! It appears that her husband has the engine number but not the number plate!



ROGERS II:

Things often come in pairs and having just checked the SHS email box, there is an enquiry from a Mell Rennie who wants information on the history of Rogers Engineering.

MCGRANE ASHES:

Natalie Dimmock is trying to trace the ashes of her father, Brian McGrane. She thinks they may have been scattered in St. Laud's Churchyard about 8 years ago as her parents were married in the church.

STONED AGAIN:

By co-incidence an email arrived on the SHS email site from Eileen Goodall of U.K. Gravestones. She has also photographed and recorded "our" gravestones and considers that some errors are shown in the records on our website. She has sent us a list and once we have compared her information with ours and also checked the actual inscriptions, any amendments that are necessary will be made.



Do you have any comments you would like to make to the members or stories you would like to pass on? Yes, then contact Sheila (Q) by email sq24@talktalk.net or 211153 and it can be included in the next Newsletter, which should be out in September.

2008 EVENTS PAST AND FUTURE:

Our last three meetings seem to have flown by, *Prunes & Prisms*; Marion Maule's talk on a Victorian childhood proved to be a very popular and enjoyable evening. We had 14 visitors as well as a good contingent of members. Hopefully we will be able to have Marion back again for another of her amazing talks.



Our May meeting was in the churchyard and, as mentioned earlier in the newsletter, was a most successful and productive meeting, with a chance to meet David and Shirley Willis



We had a semi-official outing on Mayday at the Knoll (May 5th). The SHS was present there, selling our wares and making ourselves known. Fortunately the weather was so much kinder to us than last year.

For those that could not make it here is a picture that Ian Collinge took on the day. (l-r Kay Turrell, Sheila Quinn, Caroline Leslie, Mark Vale)

DON'T FORGET! Our next meeting on the 10th June will be a picnic at Yew Tree Farm. Diana and Richard Morgan have generously offered to supply drinks and, just in case we have another chilly evening, have invited us to picnic indoors!! Please bring yourselves, your picnic and something savoury or sweet to put on the communal table. The time? 7:45pm for 8pm.

In July we again have a trip out as we are visiting the Newport Pagnell Museum with the possibility of a guided walk around some of 'Old Newport' with Don Hurst and Connie Hilton.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

June 10th	Pot Luck Picnic at Yew Tree Farm (members only)
July 8th	Visit to Newport Pagnell Museum
Sept 9th	Members Meeting with a focus on the Open Day preparation meeting
Sept 27th (Saturday)	SHS Open Day, 'Pumps and Praises' (see article on Page 9 for more information).

Just a quick reminder, no meeting in August

6



WEBSITE (www.mkheritage.co.uk/shs)
Have you visited the website recently?

Since Roger Drage left the employ of the Milton Keynes Museum and the MKHA, there has been no information provided on what pages on our website are accessed and how often the pages are being read so we were unsure what was being used and what is not. In March Ian set up a way of doing this for ourselves and

has provided us with the details of how often and what has been looked at in April.

In April there was a staggering 6253 page loads (pages being accessed), 1595 unique visitors, of which 1521 were first times to the website (since this new collection method was initiated) and 74 were returning. In May 5231 page loads in May by 1485 'unique visitors'. The last 500 visitors included ones from Senegal, Italy, Portugal, Netherlands, Denmark, Germany, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the US, as well as the UK.

Of the people accessing the website just over two thirds are based in the UK, thirty percent are US based and the remaining three percent came from all over the world (Argentina, Canada, Chile, China, Finland, Ireland, Mauritius, Netherlands, Nigeria, Peru, Romania, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey).

This, I find amazing!

The new or recent content that has been added to the website is:

- The last newsletter as well as the "news" part of the Committee meetings, with March being already on the website and April due to go on any moment, if not there already.
- A biography of Paul Mann by his daughter, Julia.
- Photo of Lionel Horsnell painting Laundry Cottage at Heydon, Norfolk, plus 2 paintings, courtesy of Ron Clark.
- Details of the 1980 Pantomime, Jack and the Beanstalk.

I would just like to add that if there are any inconsistencies on our website that you are aware of then please let us know. We can only correct discrepancies if we are made aware of them, as mentioned earlier with regard to the Monumental Inscriptions



8



MESSES DEVINY AND P.E. SMITH



SID TATHAM, DIGGING THE FOOTINGS FOR THE VILLAGE HALL C 1920'S

7

A new heritage facility has now opened in Central Milton Keynes and is called **Discover Milton Keynes**. It is on the outside of the shopping building facing Lloyds Court, near door 7 (see front cover for the "shop front"). The displays will change on a monthly basis so if you are up there it will be worth a visit. As members of the Milton Keynes Heritage Association we will be able to use the facility, if we wish, to display information or to produce our own exhibitions. For more information please call in or visit <http://www.discovermiltonkeynes.co.uk> (picture below of the opening day, but it does show the inside).



There is an exhibition that changes monthly. Last months exhibitions is entitled "A City of Firsts". For example: In 1985 Milton Keynes was the first in the UK to create a purpose-built multiplex cinema - The Point in Central Milton Keynes. This month's is entitled "Milton Keynes at War"

Make the effort to visit it. I think you will find it worthwhile.

SEPTEMBER 27TH - SHS OPEN DAY:

We have now set on a theme for the Open Day on September 27th. This year it will be called "Pump 'n' Praises".

If you have any old photos or information about St Laud's or any other places of worship in Sherington for the Pulpit, or if you have any pictures or information on any of the Pubs (White Hart, The Swan, Crown and Castle, Royal Oak or any other drinking den) then please get in touch.



THE STORER FAMILY RECORD:



Caroline Ellis of the Emberton Well & Tower Society has given us more family history to add to the Storer family file. For anyone interested, please contact Sheila Q via email sq24@talktalk.net or 211153

9



GUN LANE SHERINGTON



PARK ROAD, SHERINGTON

10



DOROTHY NURSAW WEDDING. C. 1920'S



VE DAY, SHERINGTON STYLE

11

If you would like to receive regular copies of the full printed Newsletter, why not join the Society?
Membership is only £5 per year. **Email for further details**