

Dorchester Association For the Research into Local History and Archaeology 2019/20 Programme

2019

Thursday September 26th

Dorchester County Town - Rob Curtis

It started with an invading army commanded by the future Emperor of Rome. Thus was Durnovaria founded. The garrison town eventually developed into the county town, a place which merits our consideration.

Thursday October 31st

Sir Mortimer Wheeler at Maiden Castle - Chris Copson

For a period in the later 1930s, Dorchester was the focus of archaeological activity on a scale never seen here before or since. From 1935-7 Dr Mortimer Wheeler carried out the only large-scale excavation of Maiden Castle yet undertaken. At the same time, the Curator of the County Museum, Lt. Col. C.D.D. Drew, excavated the Roman town house and associated features in Colliton Park.

Saturday November 2nd

Prehistoric Dorchester Day School in memory of Peter Woodward.

Admission by ticket only. Contact Michael Rice for details: 07780 992799.

hon.sec@dorchester-association.co.uk

Thursday November 28th

RAF Warmwell's Strategic Importance in the Battle of Britain - Ian Virgo

"Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few." Winston Churchill's words were certainly true of the two squadrons of Spitfires based at Warmwell who held off an entire German air fleet.



2020

Thursday January 30th

Mumming Plays – Jerry Bird

The tradition of mumming, found throughout Europe, but most commonly in the British Isles, dates back to the mediaeval period. Now most often performed at Christmas by morris sides, the mumming play features stock characters such as St George, Bold Slasher, a Dragon and a Doctor, who was able to resurrect the dead.



Court Mummers. Harleian MS. 4379.

Thursday February 27th

My Family and Other Smugglers - Roger Guttridge

Roger's talk is inspired by family legends and documents about his maternal ancestors, who led one of North Dorset's notorious smuggling bands in the C18th and C19th. He sets their adventures in the context of a major, but illegal, industry that flourished for over 100 years.

Thursday March 26th

The Fox-Strangways a Dorset family - Jane Ferentzi-Sheppard

The Fox-Strangways family is a major Dorset landowner and was awarded the title of Earls of Ilchester in 1756. Among their holdings is Abbotsbury, where the sub-tropical gardens now occupy the site of the demolished Castle.

Thursday April 30th

The Kitchen is the Key to Victory - Professor Karen Hunt

The First World War was the first "total war" which mobilised civilians as well as military personnel to fight on the inextricably linked war and home fronts. The battle on the home front focussed on a new weapon of war: food, which was wielded by women in their own homes. Indeed it was argued that the Kitchen was the Key to Victory. This talk explores what this meant for Bridport and its women - their resilience and inventiveness.

Thursday May 28th

Dorchester's Georgian Architecture - Ian Gosling
Ian's lecture arose from a Civic Society project to photograph all of Dorchester's 282 listed buildings and checking on their conservation. He is hoping to assist in the establishment of a data base of historic buildings, photographs and their history.



**Officers of the Association
2019 - 2020**

The Association was formed in 1982 with the co-operation of the Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society, but is an independent, charitable, non profit-making organisation. Its primary aim is to promote public interest in the local history and archaeology of Dorchester and its surrounding area

**All meetings are on Thursday evenings
apart from the Saturday Day School**

They will be held at the Dorford Centre,
Bridport Road, Dorchester unless
otherwise stated

**Evening talks will commence at
7.30pm**

Charity Registration Number 293998

Chairman

Chris Copson
chair@dorchester-association.co.uk

Hon. Treasurer

Alec Bailey

Hon. Secretary

Michael Rice
6, Highfield Close
Charminster
Dorchester. DT2 9RW
Tel.No. 07780 992799
hon.sec@dorchester-association.co.uk

Membership Secretary

Doug Lazenby
30, Treves Road
Dorchester DT1 2HE
Tel.No. 01305 264287
membership.sec@dorchester-association.co.uk

Publications Secretary

Mrs Pat Bailey
Greenacres
Winterbourne Abbas
Dorchester DT2 9LJ
Tel.No. 01305 889454
publications.sec@dorchester-association.co.uk

Programme Secretary

Jan Tollerfield
Tel. No. 01305 266023
programme.sec@dorchester-association.co.uk

www.dorchester-association.co.uk

The Dorchester Association for Research into Local History & Archaeology

**President:
Peter Bellamy**

**Programme
2019 – 2020**

