



TIMES PAST

The Newsletter of Kennington History Society

Issue 1

Spring 2004

SOCIETY CELEBRATES VERY SUCCESSFUL FIRST YEAR

In its first year our local history group welcomed more than 100 members, with the Society's monthly meetings attracting an impressive average attendance of more than 50 people.

The difficult task now must be to maintain and expand this initial success by both continuing to provide members with a programme of interesting talks of an historic flavour whilst also encouraging them to participate actively in our events and research.

LATEST ON NEW PUBLICATIONS

'**Lest We Forget**' the story of the local men commemorated on the village war memorial should be ready for publication very soon.

The book will contain not only the 'official' details such as age, regiment, date of death and the sites of their graves or memorials, but also a brief commentary on the particular theatre of war in which these brave local men tragically lost their lives.

Additionally, where it is known, a little of the man's family background is included.

'**Evacuees in Kennington**' the recorded experiences of the children, who during the last war to escape the bombing were moved for their safety to the village is also in an advanced stage of preparation.

This book will tell us about the families into which these children were placed and the friendships that developed and endured long after the hostilities ended.

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

Membership fees are now due for payment and should be paid to the Treasurer, Doreen Horseman, 9 Manor Grove, Kennington, Oxford.

See overleaf for current subscription rates.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

MARRIAGE PRESENTATION

On 22nd September, 1883, a testimonial, consisting of a silver tea pot, with inscription, spoons and a full china tea service was presented by the vicar and parishioners at Kennington to their esteemed school mistress, Miss E. A. Watts, on the occasion of her approaching marriage and resignation of her appointment after four and a half years. Mrs. Munday had collected subscriptions and hoped she would remember in her new home that she carried with her the affectionate regard of all who had known her.

Oxford Chronicle
29th September 1883

EARLY 'THRIFT CLUB' IN KENNINGTON

The Rev Peter Maurice, the first curate-in-charge of Kennington (1829-1854) said 'for four or five years I have adopted a scheme of collecting from the poor certain small weekly sums to enable them to hereafter provide themselves with those more expensive items of clothing and fuel which otherwise they would find it difficult to acquire'

He explained that each family was supplied with a card with spaces for weekly deposits which they pay sometime during the course of the week to the Master of the Sunday School. Adding every family was subscribing except one poor widow. The Scheme

had been the means of providing 100 pairs of sheets which were considered 'articles more acceptable than blankets or anything else of this kind' because blankets tended to be pawned!

City, University and County Herald
7th November 1836

QUOTATION

'With History you can never be certain, but I think I can safely say that Aristotle Onassis would not have married Mrs. Khrushchev'

Gore Vidal
Sunday Times
4th June 1989

'NEWS IN BRIEF'

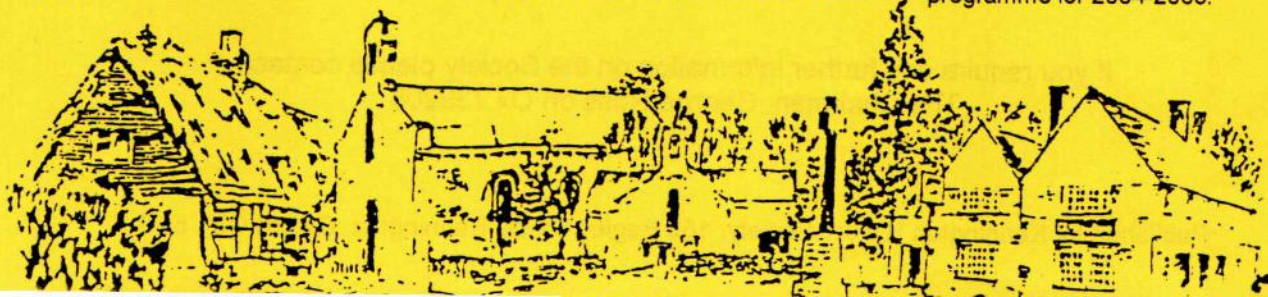
Read about our neighbours

'The History of Radley' is an attractive and readable account of our neighbouring village by six members of the Radley History Club. Much of the 'History' covered in the book is both connected and shared with Kennington.

It covers ancient times, through the Saxons and Normans up to the present day and can be purchased at a cost of £8.50 from either Radley Post Office or Radley History Club, PO Box 169, Abingdon OX14 3WZ

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Please see overleaf for the Society's programme for 2004-2005.



PROGRAMME OF EVENTS FOR 2004-2005

KENNINGTON HISTORY SOCIETY

7:45pm in the Methodist Church

15th March 2004	Story of Oxford's Historic Waterways - Mark Davies
19th April 2004	Michael Underhill Oxford Antiquarian & Grocer (1855-1920) the folklore and landscape of Oxford - Megan Price
17th May 2004	History of Christ Church Cathedral - Jim Godfrey
21st June 2004	A Guided Visit to Iffley's Norman Church - Sheila Fairfield
20th September 2004	The Paper House at Redbridge - Rob Kinchin-Smith - and the man that built it - Robert Sephton
18th October 2004	History of Kennington's Street Names - George Ross
15th November 2004	Members Evening - Opportunity for short presentations by Members
20th December 2004	Story of the English Civil War - David Buxton
17th January 2005	Beneath Your Feet - the mystery of prehistory - an illustrated talk by Phil Powell - Hon. Associate Curator in Geology at University Museum
21st February 2005	Society's Annual General Meeting

It is also hoped to arrange a guided visit to Radley College during the Summer.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Family Membership	£ 14.00
Single Members	£ 8.00
Student	£ 5.00
Distant members	£ 3.00
Non member/Visitor	£ 2.00

Please make all cheques payable to: Kennington History Society

If you require any further information on the Society please contact:
The Chairman, George Ross on Ox.739208