



TIMES PAST

The Newsletter of the Kennington History Society
Issue 27
Winter 2018

KENNINGTON HISTORY SOCIETY IN 2018

The Society again enjoyed a varied programme of talks during the year, but perhaps the highlight was the members evening in February, when we were treated to four presentations, where after each one, one wondered how to follow that. Truly an amazing evening!

Sadly not enough people wanted to go on a visit to Coventry, so it had to be cancelled.

George Ross who was our Chairman since the beginning of the Society in 2003 until a couple of years ago has been ill, but is recovering at home, and continues to amuse the village with his pictures and comments on social media.

WHERE WERE YOU ON 20th July 1969 ?

Three men were in space, and 2 of them landed on the moon. Neil Armstrong was the first man to walk on another planet, and his words have become immortal:

That's
one small
step for a
man, one
giant leap
for
mankind.

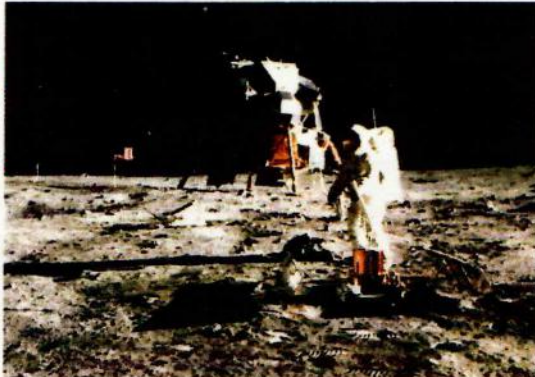
It is
estimated
that 600
million

people watched the landing live on television, that was 14% of the world population.

Neil Armstrong saw it fit to take with him pieces of wood from the pioneering Wright plane as well as a piece of fabric from the plane to symbolize the great progress made in aviation.

Upon returning to land the astronauts were quarantined for 21 days, as no one knew what they may have been subjected to.

The pair left behind a retroreflector array which is still used by scientists today to measure the distance between our planet and the Moon. Every day laser beams are shot towards the Moon from the Apache Point Observatory in New Mexico. Some of these are reflected back by the array and the distance can be calculated by the time this takes.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

21st January: Morris' Metropolis.
The Motor Works and transformation of Oxford
Simon Wenham

18th February: AGM and Members short talks evening. We have two speakers offering short talks, but if you would like to speak, contact a member of the committee. (*no pressure*)

18th March: Kennington's own award-winning Stonemason and some of his restoration projects.
Alex Wenham

FULL PROGRAMME FOR 2019

a copy is enclosed with this newsletter.

HISTORY SOCIETY WEBSITE

Keep up to date with the latest details of the Society's events via the village website www.kennington-pc.gov.uk and clicking organisations and clubs, then History.

SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE (NO INCREASE)

Annual Subscriptions are due on the 1st January 2019. A renewal form is enclosed.

£12 Individual £20 family

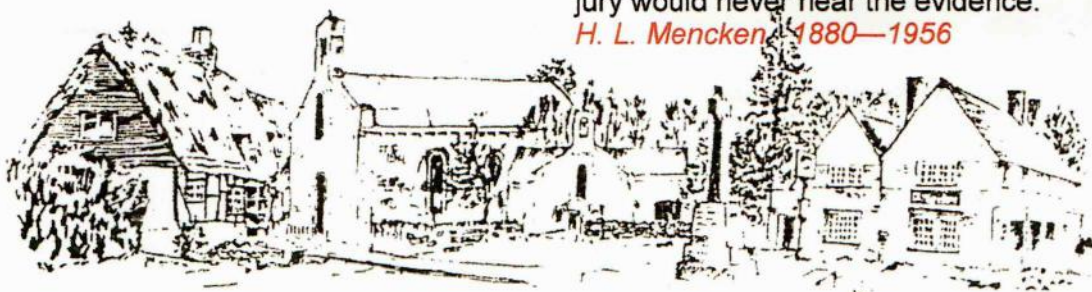
QUOTATIONS

I have found that if you love life, life will love you back.

Arthur Rubinstein 1887—1982

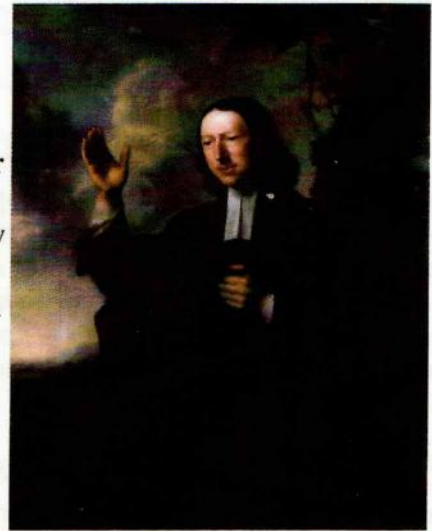
The penalty for laughing in a courtroom is 6 months in jail, if it were not for this penalty, the jury would never hear the evidence.

H. L. Mencken 1880—1956



John Wesley: pioneer of electro-therapy

Members of the Kennington History Society will be familiar with their base in the Methodist Church and some with the religious works of the founder of Methodism – John Wesley. However, fewer will be familiar with his work in holistic medicine as he described in “Primitive Physic” and even fewer will be familiar with his study and application of electrotherapy. Then, this was a new and controversial field with famous contemporaries including Benjamin Franklin and Luigi Galvani. The international scientific community of the day buzzed with its implications and motivated Mary Shelly to write her famous novel “Frankenstein”.



Wesley was motivated to bring the health benefits of herbalsim and electrotherapy to the masses who otherwise had limited access to medicine. Today those of us involved in applying electrical stimulation in rehabilitation and surgery stand on the shoulders of such giant's. The presentation will outline Wesley's significant and important contribution, which has largely been neglected, even by Methodist's – prepare to be shocked !!

Brian Andrews

