



NEWS

Colehill Community Library

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Issue 81

Published every two months. Editor: Graham Mallett, focolnews@gmail.com

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Chairman's comments

(having just returned from Kent....!)

Chaucer's pilgrims went to Canterbury

"The holy blissful martyr for to seeke

That hem hath holpen whan that they were seke."

but the tomb of Thomas a'Becket disappeared long ago, in the Reformation, so our purpose was more pleasure and cultural than religious. And our ultimate destination was... MARGATE!

Not "Dreamland" (not open yet anyway) but the Turner Centre for Contemporary Arts. Quite an experience and well worth a visit if you are out that way. Van Dyke's self-portrait is the attraction, but there is a Tracey Emin (without bed), Stanley Spencer, and many others.

But Van Dyke aside, the highlights of the trip were, for me, the delightful works of Charles Spencelagh (a Victorian character painter) at Rochester Guildhall, and the Richborough fort, site of the Roman invasions in AD43 and subsequent military supply base. New experiences for me and highly recommended.

Most educational, like libraries.

"Sumer Is Icumen In". *John Gooch, Chairman*

Fund-Raising Events

6th May - Coach trip to London - SIX SEATS LEFT

The BBC tour is fully booked but there are six seats left on the coach, so if you would simply like to spend the day in the West End - a matinee, museum, gallery or shops - it will be just £25 for a coach door to door. It leaves Colehill at 9.30 a.m. and should arrive in Portland Place at around 1 p.m. and then departs at 6 p.m. Details in the library.

CLEAR YOUR ATTICS - TABLE TOP SALE

June 27th from 2 - 5 pm at the Memorial Hall.

There are two sizes of table available: 5ft at £7 and 4ft at £5. Half the tables have been booked so **if you would like to take part in this event, act now!** It is possible to share a table or book two tables if you wish - remembering you will need to clear what you have left at the end of the sale. You keep whatever cash you take.

To book a table or for further information ring:

Val Seddon 01202 884079 or mobile 07715 237535.

BLETCHLEY PARK COACH TRIP

A coach trip has been organised on **Wednesday 16th Sept.** to Bletchley Park. Tickets from the library.

Colehill Bookworms Book Club

Colehill Bookworms is a friendly, lively and very welcoming group run on the **third Wednesday evening** of the month, the only evening book club. We choose through discussion a range of titles from both the Library Reading group book sets and recommended titles within the group which we source ourselves. Our recent debates have covered authors ranging from Paul Theroux and Khaled Hosseini to Alan Burgess and Nella Last. Our aim is to read a wide breadth of author, fiction to biography, past to present. We currently have a couple of spaces for new members so if you are interested, please let the library know and one of the group will contact you. We look forward to hearing from you to join our debates.

"Life on the Hill" Project

An enthusiastic bunch of people gathered at the library on a sunny St George's Day last month to celebrate our own little corner of England. Members of the regular Thursday morning groups were joined by other residents of Colehill to launch a new project called "Life on the Hill".

A good deal of laughter and fun accompanied the initial sharing of our experiences of living in Colehill. Only one of those present was a Colehill "native", some of us have lived here for 20 years or more, some are more recent >>

Uddens, a Dorset Manor, from Saxon to Tudors

Join us for another excellent talk by local historian and writer **Janet Seal**

Enjoy a glass of wine or a cup of coffee while Jan tells us about Uddens.

Without the trees the library overlooks much of the manor owned. It goes from the original charters in 946 AD and covers all the tenants/owners to the Arney family who got it through marriage - what's new! Some tenants were greedy, others deemed to be traitors. Not for those with delicate constitutions!

Wednesday 10th June

7.30 - 9.00 pm

Colehill Community Library

Please sign up at the library to reserve your place.

newcomers. But everyone had something to contribute as local author Tracy Baines helped us to explore ways we can capture aspects of our everyday lives, past and present.

The “Life on the Hill” project is intended to create a snapshot of life on the wooded slopes of Colehill in words and pictures. Stories, anecdotes, poems, recipes, articles of all kinds will be included in an anthology which we hope to publish in print, and as an e-book, for everyone to access.

We shared stories of famous (and infamous) residents, houses, gardens and trees, Our many different skills and enthusiasms ranging from motor bikes to lace making, (and many, many more) all became evident as we talked together, and there was a buzz of interest as connections were made and questions raised.

Looking forward:

Over the next few weeks the regular Thursday morning groups will think and plan items they want to contribute to the book. Tracy Baines will return to help us write up, edit and collate material for the anthology on **Thursday, July 23rd**, and again on **Thursday, October 22nd**. We hope to be ready to publish the book by summer 2016. The nature of this initial “Life on the Hill” book will mean that all contributions will be short, and will have to be edited to a strict word count. But we hope the process of collecting stories and pictures together will help build our friendships and our community, and may well provide material for even more volumes in the future!

Anyone who would like to be involved is welcome to join in, either by coming along to one of the regular Thursday groups, or by contacting the library with a story or anecdote they may want to share. Perhaps you know someone with stories and memories of Colehill, who can't be involved in the project themselves, but who would be willing to let you tell their story.

Email ideas for the project to Cilla Sparks:
ccl.lifeonthehill@gmail.com
or phone the Library on 01202 886676.

Games morning

There has been a suggestion that some people may be interested in an opportunity to meet in the library for a game of Scrabble, Chess, Backgammon or other.

If this might interest you perhaps you could leave your name and contact details at the Library.

Summer Reading Challenge 2015 – dates for your diary

The theme for this year's challenge is Record Breakers. This brings together the worlds of fact and fiction challenging young readers to explore some of the astonishing real life achievements and world records such as those featured in the Guinness World Record Books.

As part of the Challenge, The Reading Agency will be attempting to set a Guinness World Record title for the greatest number of people making a pledge or promise related to reading.

Pledges will be collected at Colehill Community Library during library opening hours on Saturday 11th July on official pledge cards. There will be three types of pledge

- For children: *to visit the library and read over the summer*
- For young volunteers (i.e. teens volunteering in libraries to promote the Challenge): *to encourage children to take part and complete the Challenge in the library*
- For adults: *to encourage people I know to read with children this summer*

As in previous years Colehill Library hopes to hold a **Summer Reading Challenge Day on Wednesday 22nd July.**

COLEHILL CONUNDRUMS ! (Part 2)

Kindly supplied by Jan Seal.

Where is Freeborne's Slop?

- A. Nr Marshfield
- B. At the Z bend on Lonnen Rd
- C. On Tower Lane

What is the most likely reason for Heatherlands House on Wimborne Road, built late 19th C, to be three storeys high?

- A. To be higher than its neighbours
- B. To provide a 'look-out' for smuggling gangs
- C. To use the local bricks as advertising

What natural hazard had to be avoided on the cricket pitch in the 20th century?

- A. Fallen apples
- B. Acorns
- C. Cow pats

In 1826 a Coroner's Inquest on James Hayward of Colehill had to decide how he died.

- A. Fell from a hay lorry
- B. Crushed by horse pulling haywain
- C. By broomsticks crushing him

Cordwainers make?

- A. String/cord
- B. Shoes
- C. Farm machinery

Colonel Paget built a new house in 1861. What did he call it?

- A. New House
- B. Park Homer
- C. Colehill House

Answers will be provided on the website from the end of May if you can't wait for the next issue! – Ed.

March Answers:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>B Donkeys grazed there</i> | <i>B Packhorse track</i> |
| <i>B Civil war burial site</i> | <i>C Cannon Hill</i> |
| <i>C John Short</i> | <i>B Bullpits</i> |

COPY DATE for next issue: 27th June