

# WESTENDER

Newsletter of the West End Local History Society  
Winter 2023



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## IMPORTANT NEWS!

Membership fees (£12 per annum) can now be paid by bank transfer:

**Account Name:** West End Local History Society

**Sort Code:** 30-13-95

**Account Number:** 00834027

Please include your full name as reference. Membership cards may be collected at the February meeting (there will be no meeting in January).



*Seasons Greetings to all our members and guests!*



Townhill Park House in the Snow. Photo courtesy Nigel Wood  
Christmas clip art in this issue courtesy of <https://publicdomainvectors.org/>

**WELHS ... Preserving our past for your future ...**

West End Local History Society is sponsored by



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## Nathaniel Middleton's South Stoneham-Born Offspring (Revised)

By Paula Downer

With reference to my article 'Nathaniel Middleton's South Stoneham Born Offspring' in 'Westender' Volume 10 Number 6, I had said that 'During the years 1871-1891 Eliza Middleton and her unmarried daughter Catherine were living at No.9 Anglesea Place in Above Bar, Southampton'. I had wrongly made the assumption that the widowed Eliza Middleton had moved from Midanbury House to the Town of Southampton when in reality Eliza had re-married in October 1858 and in 1861 is shown living in a townhouse overlooking Hyde Park (No.35 Hyde Park Gardens) in Paddington, London with her husband Roderick Macneil, a Colonel of the 78<sup>th</sup> (Highlanders) Regiment of Foot. They were wed at St. George's Church in Hanover Square, London. Eliza came from a wealthy background, her father George Carpenter was a General in the East India Company's Bengal Army, his estate included properties in Calcutta, India. This was a second marriage for both Eliza and Roderick, Roderick's beloved late wife Isabella Caroline (née Brownlow) had very sadly died in April 1855. Roderick and Isabella had only one child, a daughter Caroline. Roderick Macneil was the 21<sup>st</sup> Baron of Barra, 41<sup>st</sup> Chief of the Clan Macneil.

Barra is a small Island in the Outer Hebrides lying about 50 miles from the West Coast of Scotland. The Macneil Clan had been in possession of Barra since 1427, their ancestral home, the castle of Kiessimul/Kisimul is situated on a small island in Castle Bay. Roderick Macneil built a kelp processing plant on Barra but unfortunately it was not a success, partly due to the demise of the kelp industry in the 1820's. Roderick Macneil was declared bankrupt and thereby sold the island to Colonel John Gordon of Cluny, Aberdeenshire in 1838.

Roderick Macneil saw a long career in the Military Service, having entered the Army as Ensign in 1808, was promoted to rank of Captain in 1814 then Major in 1821. In 1860 he transferred from the 8<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot to Colonel of the 78<sup>th</sup> (Highlanders) Regiment of Foot (The Ross-shire Buffs). He became Army General in 1862. Roderick Macneil spent thirteen years serving in India, commanding a division of the East India Company's Madras Army for three years. Roderick Macneil served in several campaigns, during the Napoleonic Wars, he participated in Sir John Moore's retreat at the Battle of Corunna in 1808-09 and at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815.

Very sadly, after only five years of marriage to Eliza, Roderick Macneil died suddenly at home in October 1863, the heartbroken widow Eliza Macneil was 'to deeply mourn her irreparable loss'. Eliza moved to No.32 Eaton Square in London's Belgravia District. After leaving part of his inheritance to his granddaughter and his daughter, Roderick Macneil left the remainder of his estate to his widowed spouse Eliza which included a house in Calcutta, India. Eliza arranged for her late husband Roderick Macneil to be laid to rest with his devoted and much loved first wife Isabella in Southampton Old Cemetery. His tombstone describes him as a Gallant soldier, sadly missed, 'Universally Beloved and Regretted. Noble in character, Exemplary in every relation of Life'.

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*"Nathaniel Middleton's South Stoneham-Born Offspring (Revised)" By Paula Downer - continued*



Roderick and Isabella Macneil's Tombstone in Southampton Old Cemetery  
Eliza is also remembered here.

The Clan Macneil heraldic crest reads 'Vincere Vel Mori' ('Conquer or Die').

Eliza Macneil passed away 20th December 1874 at the age of 73 at Norfolk House in Brighton, East Sussex and was thereby buried at All Souls Cemetery in Kensal Green, London the following month, where her first husband Charles John Middleton had been interred in 1844. Eliza had placed a memorial tablet 'as a mark of affectionate remembrance' to Charles John Middleton in St. Mary's Church, in the parish of South Stoneham, Southampton. According to Probate details published in 1874, Eliza Macneil is shown to be late of Midanbury House in the County of Southampton and of 32 Eaton Square in the County of Middlesex. Of particular interest to Southampton's local historians, one of the Executors of Eliza's Will was Steuart Macnaghten of Bitterne Manor in the County of Southampton.



Midanbury House, Southampton

Purchased by Building firm T. Clark & Co. in 1927, then demolished to make way for housing.

Image courtesy of Mr John Clark

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*“Nathaniel Middleton's South Stoneham-Born Offspring (Revised)” By Paula Downer - continued*

In 1937 Robert Lister Macneil, 45<sup>th</sup> Chief of Clan Macneil, purchased his ancestral home of Kisimul and several acres of land. He restored the castle which was subsequently leased for 1,000 years to Historic Scotland in 2001 at a rent of £1 per annum and a bottle of Talisker malt whisky, this was honoured until Robert's son Ian Roderick Macneil 46<sup>th</sup> Chief passed away in 2010. Historic Scotland is now Historic Environment Scotland; Kisimul Castle is currently closed until further notice.

With thanks to Steve Adams of BLHS for highlighting my error with the information that I needed to update my previous article and to acknowledge Garth Groombridge for his discovery of a photo of Midanbury House, believed to be the only photo of the house in existence (unless anyone knows otherwise?).

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## Cottages and Cottagers

By Pauline Berry

Having referred to the Brickmakers' Cottages on Chalk Hill in my last article, I consulted the 1845 South Stoneham tithe records and counted approximately 145 entries of “cottage and garden” in total in West End. But then, what is the definition of a “cottage” when there are no descriptions included? The Concise Oxford English Dictionary defines a cottage as “a small, simple house especially in the country”. So, we can only assume that the early cottages here were either single or two storeyed with either a thatched or slate roof and limited in size.

The late Charles Sillence recalled a story about two old cottages, now long gone, near the corner of Moorhill Road and St. James's Church which were built with two-feet-thick walls made of clay and straw. They were legally erected by commoners with ground rights. During the earlier 18<sup>th</sup> century, such homes were also built by more prosperous owners of land for their workers such as millers, papermakers, agricultural labourers and, of course, brickmakers etc. They were generally supplied with one living room with an open fire and one bedroom (or recess) and had no plumbing. Thick walls and a fireplace were the only concessions to any comfort, as well as large gardens in which the cottagers grew their own fruit and vegetables and raised pigs and chickens for meat and eggs.

Cherry trees were so valued generally that the Sillence family living in Fir Tree Cottage on the High Street many years later had a bell attached to a scarecrow next to their tree. It had a long rope joined to Mr. Sillence senior's bed. He would wake up early to pull the rope regularly to frighten away hungry birds after the cherries! Another cottage nearby was used as a laundry by the Misses Drew who washed and dried clothes, which were collected and sometimes delivered by Bob Moody and Maud Shergold by horse and cart.

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*"Cottages and Cottagers" by Pauline Berry - Continued*



Mrs Sillence & her daughter Myrtle  
outside Fir Tree Cottage in the 1920s

The 1808 sales literature of Nathaniel Middleton's estate reveal that many cottages were tied to local farms, such as Hatch Farm, Hickley Farm, Townhill Farm and Chalcroft Farm. Their tenants would pay a few shillings annual rent for living in their cottages with the ever-constant danger of sparks from their fires causing devastation. Over the years during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, they were often rebuilt with tiled roofs.

The South Stoneham tithe map records the names of the earlier landowners who let their cottages or land, including James Warner, James Butt, James Barlow Hoy and Queen's College Oxford. A few female landowners were named: the Widows Hewlett, Owton, Riddle and Rogers. Thomas Weston was probably an investor who bought land along the northern side of Moorhill Road in the early 1840s, intending to have five larger houses built.

The cottagers or tenants were often mobile, changing jobs and their tied cottages. Old maps in our museum show that many of the 145 cottages mentioned earlier were clustered along the western end of the High Street, Chapel Road, Ivy Lane and Botley Road. Dampness and rats were a common complaint addressed to some of the landlords, including Baltic Cottage, referred to in a resident's letter. It was built in 1832 with a thatched roof.

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*"Cottages and Cottagers" by Pauline Berry - Continued*

There were two semi-detached cottages standing near the entrance to Hickley Farm and their two front and back doors were side by side. Charles Sillence told the story of the farmer who was so annoyed by the tenants' wives, who would stand and gossip to each other for hours on end, that he took drastic measures. He had their doors bricked up in such a way (the front door of one house and the back door of the other) that the wives' gossiping was stopped! Like so many of the old cottages, these were later demolished since they were antiquated and in need of extensive repair and modernization.

Such cottages, long gone, include: Barnard, Anton and Risca (next to the Master Builder), demolished about 1968. Others include the Ivy Lane Cottage, originally home to the Moody family, Baltic Cottage (now Baltic Road), Firtree Cottage (High Street) and Yew Tree Cottage (next to Fielders Court), to name but a few.

Fortunately, and surprisingly, several old cottages have survived and still stand today. For example, Keeper's Cottage in Allington Lane, whitewashed with a thatched roof, is believed to have been the home of the gamekeeper for Lord Swaythling. Another thatched home still to be seen is Myrtle Cottage near the foot of Chalk Hill, shown on old documents as dating back to before 1800. Set slightly back from Swaythling Road is Araucaria Cottage, part thatched and named after the "monkey puzzle" tree.



Thatched Cottage in Chalk Hill c.1926

In brief, others are Hillsborough Cottage (Moorhill Road), Romill Close Cottages (formerly in Allington Lane), the Blacksmith's Cottage (opposite the main gates of Hatch Grange) and Ghuznee (built 1841) at the bottom of Telegraph Road. These are a few of the survivors, possibly because they were better built and modernized, and later plumbed in, electricity added and extensions built to accommodate kitchens and bathrooms. In his book "I Remember", Bob Moddy expressed his pleasure when the "bog", or privy, in the garden of his home in Park Villa was modernized in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

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*“Cottages and Cottagers” by Pauline Berry - Continued*

Finally, mention must be made about the three old dwellings which are now officially Listed Buildings Grade II due to their historic or architectural value: Firstly, The Farmhouse, off Gater’s Hill, a two-storey timber-framed cottage with unusual chimneys, indicating that they are 16<sup>th</sup> century or later. Secondly, The Gatehouse in Swaythling Road, detached and dated 18<sup>th</sup> or early 19<sup>th</sup> century, part timber-framed with a tiled roof. Lastly, Barnsland Cottages opposite the petrol station, a pair of 19<sup>th</sup> century cottages, of two storeys and having windows with diamond and lozenge leaded lights.

Thus, many more cottages have survived into the 21<sup>st</sup> century and hopefully for future generations to enjoy. If you think your West End cottage is worthy of being listed, then do consult Eastleigh Borough Council for further information.

Extract from the Sunlight Year Book 1899 – **Recipe for Cottage Broth**

“Chop up 2 pennyworth of bones into small pieces, thickly sprinkle with salt, put in an oven until salt browns. Place them in a stewpan which contains rather more than a quart of cold water, a sliced onion, turnip and carrot. Let them slowly simmer for 2½ hours, taking off the scum frequently. When cool, remove fat and simmer with an ounce of partly boiled rice or barley until it is done. Lastly, add some crusts of bread.”

(Copyright 1899 Lever Brothers Limited, Port Sunlight).

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**Creating A Stink!**

By Paula Downer

Wandering along Moorhill Road, West End recently I chanced upon a Stink pipe! I had never noticed this before and wondered how many of our local residents have?



Stink pipe in Moorhill Road  
Photos by Paula Downer

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*“Creating A Stink!” by Paula Downer continued*

Stink or Stench pipes were built in response to the ‘Great Stink’ during the prolonged hot summer of 1858 (35° C (95° F) which was recorded in London on the 16<sup>th</sup> June) when the River Thames in London stank to high heaven! The air was foul and could not be tolerated any longer. Water closets had been in use for some years but the existing underground sewers could not adequately cope with the increasingly large amount of human waste which ended up festering in the river! (nice!).

Highly inflammable and volatile gases consisting of methane, ammonia and hydrogen sulphide (the rotten egg smell) tended to build up in the sewer pipes so, to overcome this, upright hollow ventilation pipes were installed connected to the underground sewer pipelines. The ventilation pipe then enabled the gases from the sewer pipe to escape up into the air and disperse. They had to be tall enough to carry away the fumes over the rooftop of neighbouring cottages to prevent fumes blowing into their open windows, so they were typically 6-8 metres tall. Meanwhile, a much bigger project saw the construction of large sewers to supplement London’s existing sewage pipelines, the work was completed in about 1910.

Stink pipes became obsolete in the 20<sup>th</sup> century due to advances in sewage management, but several redundant ones can still be found. They are usually made of cast iron, painted grey or green, sometimes with the name of the manufacturer on its base. Most of them have had their top part dismantled, very few remain at their full height but there is still one with its cap in West Road, Woolston, Southampton. I have found stink pipes of a similar design in Westrow Road, Shirley and Rigby Road, Portswood in Southampton, suggesting that these were all built by the same manufacturer, possibly Ham Baker & Co. of Westminster, London.

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**ON THIS DAY, 16<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 1653:** Oliver Cromwell became Lord Protector of England after the English Civil War. He is often remembered for banning the celebration of Christmas, although this is spurious. As early as 1642, a Bill had been passed by Parliament – and ratified by King Charles I – legislating for a day of prayer and fasting for Christmas. Many Protestants in England and Scotland objected to Christmas on the grounds of there being no mention in scripture of Christmas celebrations, which were associated with Catholicism – and because of the drunkenness and debauchery associated with traditional celebrations!

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### **WEST END IN THE NEWS – Christmas Cheer by Sue Ballard**



The Hampshire Advertiser of 4th January 1936 carried a surprisingly lengthy report entitled “West End Cheer: How the Christmas Fund was Used”. It went on to say “The many expressions of gratitude to the distributors of the parcels at Westend Parish Hall must have convinced the committee of the Christmas Cheer Fund that the effort to provide extra comfort for widows, the unemployed and to relieve distress must have been fully justified. Altogether 92 parcels at an estimated cost of £43 10s were distributed, graded according to circumstances.”

*Continued on Page 9*



*“Christmas Cheer” by Sue Ballard continued*

“Graded according to circumstances” suggests that the charitable impulse was informally means-tested, perhaps a necessity given how far the fund needed to be divided. If evenly distributed, £43 10s divided between 92 families would have been 9s 5d per family. This sounds a pitifully small amount to us in 2023, but sources indicate that farm workers on average earned around £80 per annum (about £1 10s per week) in 1936. So, the West End Christmas Fund raised about a third of a week’s wage for most of its beneficiaries.

The report went on to state that Mr H. Haines was the Chair of the committee and the Vicar was the Vice Chair. The schoolmaster Mr. H.V.W. Harris was the secretary. Other committee members included members of the parish council and their wives, as well as Misses Johnston, Stokes, Hatley and Acton.

The remainder of the article, which covered about a third of a column, listed all the individuals or groups who contributed or collected and the amounts involved. Collectors included Miss Moody, Mrs Fray & Mrs Pook. Contributions were made by Hampshire Friendly Society, Mr H. Haines and Mr W. J. Collins. Whist drives were held and money was raised by West End Mother’s Union, West End Women’s Social Club, West End Men’s Club, St. James’s Church Fund, West End Labour Party and West End Good Intent Club. Local businesses also contributed: West End Box Factory, Winchester Brewery Co., the Southampton brewers Mew, Langton & Co. and Messrs Brickwood & Co. – and Bitterne Dairy, who contributed free milk.

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## The Night Sky

### By Frederick Harder

Sitting here in the garden having a cuppa looking up at a fairly cloudy sky my mind goes back in time as all of us oldies do and I thought that you might like to know what my mind was thinking ...

On dark warm evenings I sometimes go into the garden and lay on a nice thick mattress for comfort on my lounge with a duvet cover over me and look up and watch the stars, aeroplanes, satellites and occasionally shooting stars. Plus, now and then, a bright flash for a few seconds, can’t find out what they are. And if there is not much happening, occasionally fall asleep. The planes have their navigational lights flashing so you can follow them through the night sky and sometimes they leave their vapour trails.

Which brings me back to this ditty, next time you look up into the sky, whether it be night or day, try to imagine if you are not old enough or have not been through it. What it was like in the time that I was a kid of around ten or twelve in the many air raids looking out of the entrance to the air raid shelter or sitting on the front door step with a glass of milk or cup of cocoa looking up at the sky, seeing the many dog-fights going on at the same time of our spitfires and the German fighters and bombers. Watched as the unlucky ones twirl down on fire followed by a trail of smoke and sometimes see a parachute open hoping that the airplane is not one of ours.

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*“The Night Sky” by Frederick Harder continued*

And at night watching the fingers of the search-lights dancing in the sky reflecting off of the clouds searching for the German bombers then when they find one and hold onto it all the ack-ack guns open up on it watching the red hot shells following each other with the occasional tracer shell. Then it all clears and the all-clear sirens wail their message that you can go back to bed or carry on as normal.

Just think that those clear blue skies that you look up at today were not always that tranquil but a hotch-potch of pilots and gunners fighting for their lives. I don't think that there can be that many left now that fought the great fight and survived. Just a few of us that watched it all happen and are grateful that we did not have to learn German. So please try to remember them on remembrance Sundays.

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## BOOK REVIEW BY NIGEL WOOD

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**“SOUTHAMPTON – a potted history” – by Martin Brisland**

This is truly a “potted history” of Southampton, a wonderful book that will find a place on the bookshelves of anyone interested in the Southampton story. The book has a useful timeline at the back along with a list of notable So'tonians as well.

Divided up into convenient to read chapters with such titles as “1066 and all that” to “How father and son helped defeat Napoleon” – the book will feature surprises at each turn of the page. Along with the usual excellent illustrations the book makes an excellent informative read.

*“Southampton: A Potted History” by Martin Brisland*

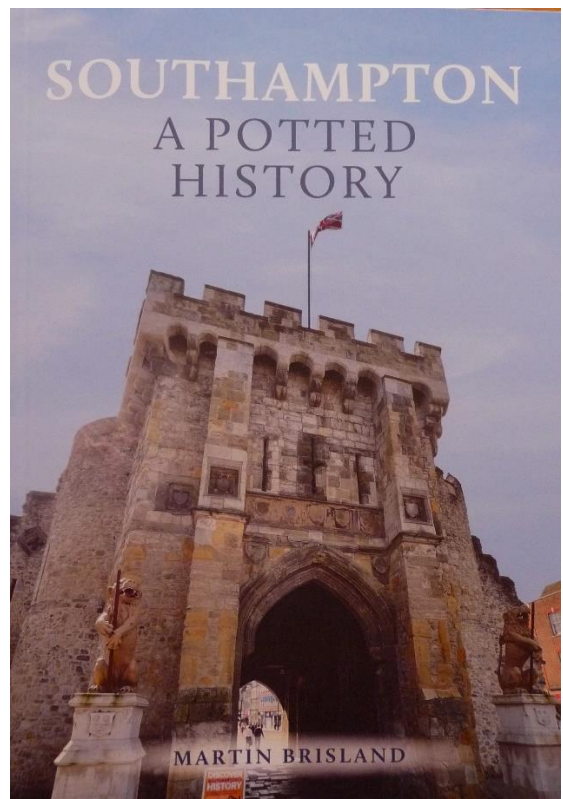
*ISBN 9781398108189*

*£15.99*

*Amberley Publishing*

*96 pages 100 illustrations*

*Also available in Kindle, Kobo and iBook formats*



## WEST END NEWS

### Girl Guides

On Tuesday evening 26th September, we welcomed 18 girl guides and their leaders to the Museum. They normally meet at Townhill Farm Community Centre. This visit was a taster for a planned heritage walk that is being prepared for the Spring.

With help from Lisette and Nigel Edwards the evening went well. Lisette had put together a couple of quizzes, the answers being around the Museum. And whilst refreshments were served, Lisette talked to them about the 4 new heritage information signs around the village.

### Remembrance Sunday

The Act of Remembrance service held at the Old Burial Ground was well attended once again, this year, with several community groups laying wreaths, including our own West End Local History Group. The service was led by the Vicar of West End, Reverend Vicky Maunder.



Photos courtesy Lin Dowdell

## FORTHCOMING LOCAL EVENTS

### **Boorley Green Festive Fair    Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 10.00 am-4.00 p.m.**

Boorley Green Community Centre, 121 Wallace Ave., Boorley Green SO32 2RQ

Free parking. Free entry.

### **Seniors' Christmas Party**

#### **West End Parish Centre    Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2.00-4.30 p.m.**

"Join us for an afternoon of delightful dancing, fabulous food & charming company."

Tickets £5 from the Parish Centre.

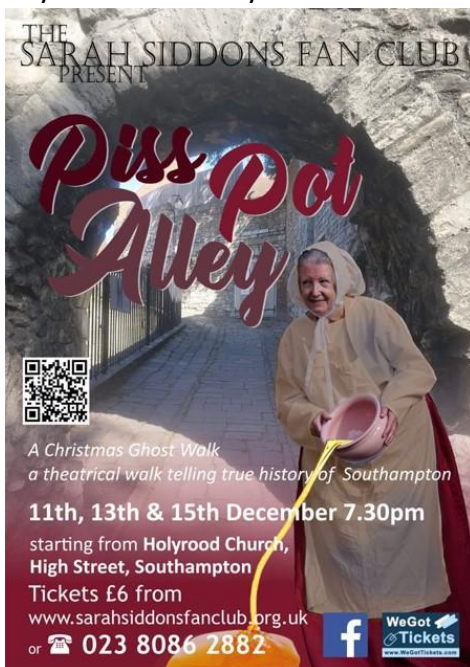
### **Bitterne United Reform Church – Christmas Tree Festival**

**Saturdays 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> December 10.00-11.30 a.m.**

**Wednesdays 13<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> December 10.00-11.30 a.m.**

### **Southampton – Sarah Siddons Fan Club: Christmas Ghost walks with 'Piss Pot Alley' 11<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> December, 7.30pm:**

"Step into the past with us! Join us for a truly different Christmas experience, to a time before indoor plumbing, toilet paper and sewers! When a rat was not just for Christmas. History buffs, theatre enthusiasts and curious minds, gather round and be transported back through time for a truly horrible history event."



"The Sarah Siddons Fan Club Theatre, named after the esteemed 18th-century tragic actress and Southampton resident, is renowned for their productions inspired by historical incidents and real people from our beloved town. Mark your calendars for the bowel releasing performances on 11<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> December, 7.30pm from Holy Rood Church, High Street, Southampton. Don't miss your chance to embark on this extraordinary journey through time and effluent!"

#### **Tickets £6.**

Tickets are available now online at

[www.wegotickets.com/sarahsiddonsfanclub](http://www.wegotickets.com/sarahsiddonsfanclub)

or direct from the Fan Club email:

[info@sarahsiddonsfanclub.org.uk](mailto:info@sarahsiddonsfanclub.org.uk)

or phone 023 8086 2882.



## **Hinton Ampner (National Trust) – A Neverland Christmas**

### **25 November 2023 – 1 January 2024**

Presented in partnership with Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity.

“A Neverland Christmas arrives at Hinton Ampner this winter, with more than a sprinkle of fairy dust on the Christmas trees. Step into the home of the Darling family and Nana the dog, where light, sound and movement bring scenes inspired by JM Barrie’s much-loved story of Peter Pan to life. Your journey takes you on an adventure to find the ticking crocodile, the Lost Boys’ camp and Tinker Bell’s mystical hideaway. Watch out for Captain Hook and his band of pirates, and encounter the source of all magic, the fairies.”

“Outside, the adventure continues – to the Wendy House, the Mermaids’ Lagoon and Nana’s dog house, where visiting pooches can pose for pics. In the courtyard you’ll find Tink’s Tuckshop, packed with traditional treats, and Hook’s Books second-hand bookshop, full of vintage delights.”

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## **A Christmas Journey to the North Pole at Mottisfont (National Trust)**

### **25 November 2023 - 7 January 2024**

“Enter the house to find richly-decorated trees, piles of beautifully-wrapped presents and extravagant floral arrangements created by Mother Christmas herself. Find Father Christmas’s study piled high with letters, and tiptoe past children asleep in decorated bedrooms. Follow their festive dreams to board the ‘Christmas Express’ into the North Pole, arriving just in time to join the glittering, snow-white polar bear’s ball. Experience the wonder of the northern lights over a towering tree sparkling with baubles.”

“Outside, follow the activity trail to help deliver Christmas wishes, and step inside the Elves' Sorting Office.”

“There's no need to book your visit. Normal property admission price (free for National Trust members, Art Fund members and under-fives), plus £3 per trail. If you’re with a carer or essential companion, they visit for free.”

## **Light Up Sir Harold Hillier Gardens at Christmas**

**30 Nov-31 Dec 2023**

“After an unforgettable transformation last year, the magnificent Sir Harold Hillier Gardens are set to shine bigger and brighter than ever before!”

“Award winning producers, **Light Up Trails** return with a host of NEW glittering installations and amazing food and drink, completing a sensational, sensory feast!”

“Immerse yourself in a truly unforgettable, magical light trail experience like no other, for the whole family!”

“You’ll find spellbinding lasers in Himalayan Valley, a multi-sensory, spectacular light show around the pond and a mirrored world that will enliven the senses. The shimmering Winter Wonderland presents the perfect opportunity to snap a selfie with giant illuminated reindeer, snowdrops and icicles.”

Prices unavailable at time of going to press.

Limited capacity applies so book now: [www.lightuptrails.com](http://www.lightuptrails.com) to guarantee your special 2023 Christmas experience! Or **phone Sir Harold Hillier Gardens 01794 369318**

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## **Festive Fun at Beaulieu**

**16 December – 01 January 10a.m.-5p.m. (Closed Christmas Day)**

“Ignite your Christmas spark in Palace House, with its stunning decorations, welcoming log fires, and a pianist and carols to get you in the festive mood. See Beaulieu spruced in seasonal decorations, catch Father Christmas driving around the attraction in a car from the museum, and see the return of the outdoor theatre in the Abbey Cloister with special performances of A Christmas Carol.”

“Whilst you are welcome to purchase your tickets on arrival, we do recommend that you pre-book them online ahead of your visit. You will be asked to select your visit date and arrival time. You may arrive up to 30 minutes after your allotted time, but don’t worry if you are delayed slightly by traffic, including our New Forest ponies! You are welcome to stay until closing. Please be certain of the date you would like to visit as tickets once booked cannot be refunded, exchanged, or moved to a different date. You can SAVE on your tickets if you purchase at least a day in advance or they can be purchased online, on the day, subject to availability. Your tickets will be emailed to you by Beaulieu and scanned on your arrival at Beaulieu. Tickets are currently on sale up to 31 December 2023.”

<https://www.beaulieu.co.uk/plan-your-visit/ticket-prices/>

## WEST END MUSEUM – WORD SEARCH

Find the words hidden in the grid. They all relate to objects in the Museum.  
They may read left to right, down, up or backward!

F	I	R	E	S	T	A	T	I	O	N
G	E	L	T	S	I	H	W	Y	J	E
H	E	L	M	E	T	X	N	I	O	C
T	L	T	M	F	A	N	O	O	G	K
Q	E	E	U	K	N	V	A	L	A	E
V	A	A	S	Z	I	B	B	A	S	R
D	P	P	E	F	C	Q	M	G	M	C
E	Q	O	U	F	S	F	O	A	A	H
S	V	T	M	L	L	E	B	E	S	I
K	X	G	J	Y	M	P	Z	J	K	E
L	U	N	I	F	O	R	M	Q	K	F
S	P	E	S	N	O	O	P	S	F	K

BELL  
BOMB  
COIN  
DESK

FIRE STATION  
GAS MASK  
HELMET  
MUSEUM

NECKERCHIEF  
SPOONS  
TEAPOT

TITANIC  
UNIFORM  
WHISTLE

## WEST END LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY FORTHCOMING EVENTS

All events take place at West End Parish Centre, Chapel Road SO30 3FE and begin at 7.30 p.m.  
Members free. Visitors welcome (£2 per person per meeting). Membership £12 per year.

### Programme of Talks 2024

<b>January 3</b>	NO MEETING
<b>February 7</b>	"The Romance of the Letterbox" – <i>Tony Cross</i>
<b>March 6</b>	"Regal Southampton" – <i>Andy Skinner</i>
<b>April 3</b>	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING plus Quiz & Cakes
<b>May 1</b>	"Spitfires & WW2 in West End – an updated talk" – <i>Alan Matlock</i>
<b>June 5</b>	"Calshot ... the R.N.A.S. Years" – <i>Colin Van Geffen</i>
<b>July 3</b>	"Woolston Floating Bridge" – <i>Stephen Hoadley</i>
<b>August 7</b>	"The Body through the Porthole" – <i>Steve Herra</i>
<b>September 4</b>	"Violette Szabo, G.C." – <i>Jeremy Prescott</i>
<b>October 2</b>	"Armchair Tour of the River Hamble" – <i>Geoff Watts</i>
<b>November 6</b>	"The View from the Bargate" – <i>Dr. Cheryl Butler</i>
<b>December 4</b>	SOCIAL EVENING – RAFFLE & DRINKS (bring your own plate of food!) plus "Around the World – the Weird, the Wild & the Wonderful" – <i>Andrew Negus</i>

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### Articles for Westender

You don't have to be a historian to write for Westender. We would love to hear your memories of growing up in the village.

email: [suballard@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:suballard@yahoo.co.uk) or leave hard copies at the museum addressed to Sue Ballard, please.  
Closing Date for contributions to Spring Issue: 12<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024.