

WESTENDER

IN OUR 20th YEAR OF PUBLICATION

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FROM OUR ARCHIVE

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THE CROWN AND THISTLE PUB IN WEST END c.1950

This image taken from our archives shows the original 'Crown & Thistle' pub (now renamed and changed as the 'Master Builder') on the Swaythling Road, West End and taken in the 1950's.

It shows a 'Bikers Meet' which occurred there and was one of a number of photo's that were kindly donated to us by Mr & Mrs Wheeler who were the publicans at the time.



THE MASTER BUILDER AS IT APPEARS NOW

West End Local History Society & Westender is sponsored by



**WEST END
PARISH
COUNCIL**



“A fine display of ankles” or the GREAT MATCH

By Peter Sillence

You might imagine that the first nationally reported cricket match played in West End would have taken place after 2001 when the Rose Bowl (currently Ageas bowl) first opened for cricket. However you'd be wrong, it happened 163 years before that. On October 8th 1838 the Southampton Herald carried a report entitled “Novel cricket match” covering a game played in Moorgreen, West End. Read the article below:-

will be opened to the English coal owners.

NOVEL CRICKET MATCH.—A somewhat novel match of cricket was played on Wednesday, between two female parties (married and single), in a field in the rear of a newly-erected public-house near Westend, kept by Mr. J. Vare. The fineness of the weather and the novelty of the scene drew together an immense concourse of spectators, who signified their delight by repeated rounds of applause. Vehicles of almost every description were also in attendance, from the dashing phaeton and pair down to the humble donkey tandem; on the whole there could not have been less than 3,000 persons present. The playing commenced in right earnest at twelve o'clock, the married ladies going in first, scoring 22 runs; the damsels then took the bat and scored 18. The dames then went in again and scored 27, making 49; the young ladies then went in and got 34, thus beating their opponent by three runs only. After the two first innings, bets varying from 2 to 1 to 5 to 2 were freely offered on the married ladies and as freely taken. The fielding and batting of Miss Ann Cleaver, of Bitterne, and the Misses Caroline and Patience Lee, were particularly admired, indeed they may be safely backed against any three boys under eighteen. The bowling of Mrs. Carter on the married side was also very good. The peculiar manner of the ladies in stopping and catching, or attempting to catch, the ball, was highly amusing, causing as fine a display of ankles as we remember ever to have seen. When the game was over they all sat down to a comfortable tea provided by the landlady, and concluded the day's sport by a dance in the evening. It is proposed to play the return match this day week (Saturday) at the New Inn, Westend. The following is the score:—

MARRIED.		
	First Inn.	Second Inn.
Mrs. Light.....	0	6
Mrs. Boyce	7	4
Mrs. Eley	1	2
Mrs. Axtell	4	5
Mrs. Carter	2	7
Mrs. Shurt	2	0
Mrs. Doling	2	0
Mrs. Short.....	0	0
Byes.....	4	3
	22	27
SINGLE.		
	First Inn.	Second Inn.
Miss Ann Cleaver	1	10
Miss Rachael Shurt	6	0
Miss Ann Shepherd	0	1
Miss Caroline Lee.....	1	18
Miss Elizabeth Short	0	0
Miss Cecilia Lee.....	0	2
Miss Patience Lee.....	8	0
Miss Rhoda Moody	2	2
Byes.....	0	1
	18	34

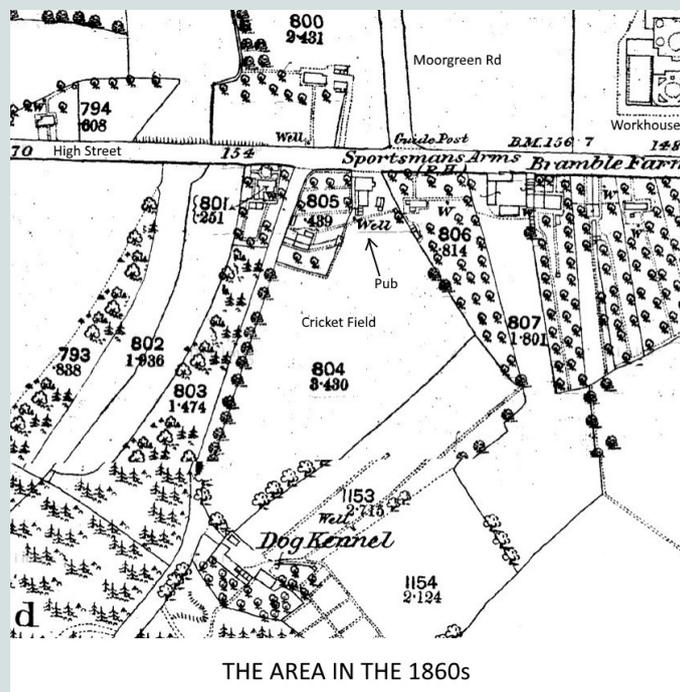
SOUTHAMPTON POLICE.—On Monday, before
 Messrs. S. H. Hulston, W. Ward, and W. Oke, esqs., John

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IS THIS WHAT THE MATCH LOOKED LIKE?

Isaac Vare (the paper misprints it as J. Vare) had built and opened a new Beerhouse in West End shortly before on land he owned in Moorgreen. He obviously thought that a bit of publicity wouldn't harm sales so he organised a special match. The publicity he obtained must have exceeded his wildest dreams because within the week it had been picked up and republished by *The Times* and several other London newspapers. It then appeared in regional newspapers around the country. The Beerhouse mentioned was *The Sportsmans Arms* (one wonders why he didn't call it the *Sportswomens Arms*). Isaac was a carpenter according to contemporary street directory entries and census returns. A few years later beer retailer or Innkeeper was added to the entries. The 1845 tithe map shows that he owned about 15 acres of land from the bottom corner of Telegraph road up past and including Dog Kennel farm. The *Sportsmans Arms* was built next to the road on High street/Botley Rd, and there was a large field (sloping somewhat!) behind it where the cricket match must have taken place. The OS map shows the area in the 1860s.



THE AREA IN THE 1860s

Isaac was refused a spirit licence until the late 1840s. Only then did it become a public house rather than a beer house. Isaac died in 1854 but the family seemed to have retained an interest in the pub until at least the late 1880s.

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The pub with some small extensions remained the same until about 1938 when Brickwoods Brewery, the then owners, decided to build a much larger pub in the garden behind. Completion was delayed by the outbreak of the war, although the building was apparently used by the Home guard. Shortly after the war ended the new pub opened and by the 50s and 60s it had become very popular. The landlord's daughter of the time remembers the car park full with cars, several coaches and 2 double decker buses and needing 16 bar staff to cope. Towards the end of its life its name was changed to the Collared Dove for a period. By the time it closed in 2003 it had been renamed The Sportsman. It was finally demolished and replaced by Fielders Court, the block of retirement flats on the corner of Telegraph road.



SPORTSMANS ARMS c1900s

The promised return cricket match which was meant to have been played the following week at the New Inn appears never to have happened, or if it did it was not reported by the papers. Maybe we should try and organise a return match at the Ageas bowl, any West End wives or daughters interested?

MYSTERY RELIGIONS

A Review by Roy Andrews

The April meeting talk was given by Andy Skinner, who works for Southampton Museums, and was sub titled *Cults and Sects in the Roman Empire*. This was very well researched and presented in depth, an example of someone who knows their subject, even if I only understood 10% of it, (much the same as those Open University programmes I sit up late watching on TV). After the talk, the vote of thanks was given by Jeanette Wilmshurst in, we were told, Latin; being only a very humble secondary school boy who barely was taught English, I will have to take my betters' word for it.

After the meeting, several members asked me how I would set out this report and I told them in six words "*It was all Greek to me*", with a bit of Egyptian, Turkish and Roman thrown in; I gave up trying to note the many names and places mentioned in the afore- mentioned languages and even the gods did not help as in different times and countries, the same god could have several different names.

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Andy started by explaining that the Cults and Sects are a mystery because there is very limited, if any, written material about them and most information comes from archeology, carvings and statues. And as with all religions, if they were not attempting to ensure a swift passage into the afterlife by worshiping the right god, they were trying to enhance survival in this life by ensuring the sun came up every day, the harvest was good and that the rains came at the right time. Then of course there was always the love interest. In most cases, it was down to the individual as to which god suited their own personal requirements as there were often many to choose from.



LEFT
Traditional image of
Mithras



RIGHT
Remains of a Temple
dedicated to Mithras on
Hadrian's Wall in
Northumberland

Andy explained that there were *Imagistic* religions which involved no special beliefs but were a personal encounter from the individual or *Doctrinal* religions which had set beliefs and rituals to be followed and some of these survived, sometimes over a thousand years, well into the Christian era. The Mithras Cult based on a Persian god was still being followed in Germany in the second century AD.

Alexander the Great's vast empire enabled new ideas on religion to spread across Europe and the Middle East and local religions could take on the mantle of similar religions from afar, hence the same god ending up with various names. The same applied with the Greek, Egyptian and Roman empires. Andy told us of the Eleusis Temple dedicated to the god Ceres near Athens, the god Isis from Egypt and Mithras from Persia via Turkey.



LEFT
Ruins of the Temple of
Eleusis near Athens



RIGHT
A statue of Ceres

The Romans eventually took on the Christian religion but even that in its early days, and perhaps still, had various believers following various paths. It took 400 years for its Creed to be finally settled on and written down. Even in the Middle Ages, the Cathars in southern Europe were still interpreting the Christian beliefs at odds with the Catholic Church until the latter church annihilated them.

Unfortunately when I came to write this review I found that I had mislaid my Latin Dictionary so I settled for writing it English.

EAST MEETS WEST (INDIES)

By Paula Downer

Introducing :-

John Charles Middleton - Nathaniel Middleton's brother (c.1755-1826)

His wife Charlotte Middleton (née Beckford) (1761-1803)

Charlotte Middleton's brother Francis Love Beckford (1764-1838)

Charlotte Middleton's Aunt Maria Beckford (1768-1854)

Daughter Charlotte Maria Middleton (c.1795-1889)

Daughter Lucy Middleton (1799-1871)

During the time Nathaniel Middleton was living at Townhill Park, South Stoneham, his younger brother John Charles Middleton was not too far away. In 1783, they had both resigned from the Honourable East India Company's service and were granted permission to proceed to England by East India Company ship.

In Feb 1793, John Charles Middleton married Charlotte Beckford of Portman Square at St. Marylebone, London. She was the daughter of Francis and Susanna Love of Basing Park and Froxfield in Hampshire. Charlotte Beckford's brother Francis Love Beckford had inherited Basing Park and Froxfield upon the death of his father in 1768. The Beckfords were extremely wealthy, they had made their money in the West Indies, owning vast sugar cane plantations in Jamaica using slave labour. Charlotte's cousin was the eccentric William Thomas Beckford, unfortunately known as 'the Fool of Fonthill', having inherited his father William Beckford's fortune, was said to be the richest man in England. William Thomas Beckford was fascinated by all things Gothic, he wrote a Gothic novel/Arabian tale, 'Vathek'. He lived a hedonist lifestyle, as a young man he had caused a scandal and was ostracized by society. In his quest to withdraw from society, he had a grand Gothic revival house built for him by the eminent architect of the day James Wyatt, it took 16 years, and caused much ill feeling on both sides ! According to Nikolaus Pevsner, a renowned architectural historian, Fonthill Abbey was the 'most prodigious romantic folly in England'. Alas, not many years later, the house had collapsed (due to inferior/hurried workmanship) !

John and Charlotte Middleton initially lived at Hinton Ampner in Hampshire which they rented from the Stawell Bilson-Legge family. Three of John and Charlotte's children were born here - John Henry, Susan Anne and Charlotte Maria. Another daughter followed, Lucy was born in Rossington, Yorkshire. One could ask why the Middletons were in Yorkshire, it appears that around this time, they were looking for somewhere else to live and Rossington Hall was available to let. By 1801 John and Charlotte were living at Shawford House in the parish of Twyford, just south of Winchester. The estate was owned by the Mildmay family, the house situated between the picturesque River Itchen and its canal. John and Charlotte were blessed with two more children - Charlotte Lydia Elizabeth and Frederick Graeme.

One can picture the two Middleton brothers calling upon one another, traversing the country lanes of Hampshire, perhaps on horseback or by carriage with their families. But sadly, in 1803, John Charles Middleton's beloved wife Charlotte died, aged only 42, at her late mother's residence in Baker Street, Portman Square in London. Her mother Susanna Beckford had died some weeks earlier. That year there had been a major influenza epidemic in London, this suggests that Charlotte had gone to London to tend to her mother and then contracted influenza herself.

After Charlotte died, John Charles Middleton took his young children to Chawton Manor which he rented from Jane Austen's brother Edward Austen Knight (he changed his name to name Knight when he inherited Chawton estate). The Austen family were on friendly terms with Warren Hastings, the first Governor-General of India, so it may have been through the Middleton brothers' East India Company connection with Warren Hastings that they had heard about Chawton Manor. Jane Austen was living just

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up the road, at Chawton Cottage, Jane referred to the Manor as the 'Great House'. Charlotte's sister Maria Beckford helped to keep the 'Great House' and look after her brother-in-law's children. A governess Miss Dudany took care of their schooling. Aunt Maria frequently took the children to visit the Austen sisters, Jane and Cassandra. It seems that Aunt Maria suffered from an 'old complaint' as she called it. Jane Austen accompanied her friend Maria to the apothecary Mr Newnham at Alton, for which she was given some 'Calomel Bright', this was used for all sorts of ailments. However, one hopes that Maria did not take too much of this lotion as it contained mercury ! Charlotte Maria was to have fond memories of Jane Austen, her keen sense of humour, radiant manner and enjoyment in playing games with the children. Charlotte Maria 'liked her extremely', Jane could be a bit aloof with strangers and her sister Cassandra was considered 'very lady-like but very prim'. The children were not aware that Jane Austen wrote novels. It was during this period that Jane Austen wrote 'Sense and Sensibility' (1811) and 'Pride and Prejudice' (1813).

Ref. 'Jane Austen - A Family Record' by William and Richard Austen Leigh, revised by Deirdre Le Faye



John Middleton and his family lived at the 'Great House' 1808-1813

In 1807, John's brother and his children's grandfather Nathaniel Middleton died of a 'cold which fixed on his lungs'. The Middleton family stayed at Chawton until 1813. From here, they moved to Weybridge in Surrey before settling at Hildersham Hall near Cambridge. In December 1826, John Charles Middleton of Hildersham died, in his will dated April 1826 he 'desired that my coffin may be filled with quick lime'. John must have known that he was dying, possibly of a contagious disease. In the days before cremation, quicklime was often used on victims whom had died of contagious diseases such as the plague or cholera as quicklime created heat and thereby prevented the body putrefying and smelling.

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In 1831, John and Charlotte Middleton's daughter Charlotte Maria married her cousin Charles Douglas Beckford (a son of her Uncle Francis Love Beckford and Aunt Joanna (née) Leigh). In the mid 1830's they lived at Cumberland Place in Southampton, Charles was Chaplain at the Royal Military Asylum which was a school for, mainly orphan, children of Army soldiers. The Royal Military Asylum was then housed in the former Cavalry Barracks in London Road, Southampton which had been made redundant post Napoleonic Wars (after 1840 the buildings were used by the Ordnance Survey). The 1851 Census for England and Wales show Charles, a Clergyman of the Church of England, and his wife Charlotte still living in Cumberland Place, Southampton.

In January 1843 the 'Hampshire Advertiser' displayed an advert for South Stoneham House which was available for rent, the property being described as a commodious, excellent family mansion with approximately 16 acres of pasture land, 3 miles from Southampton. South Stoneham House was owned by the Fleming family, whom were then one of the largest land owners in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, they owned land and property in North Stoneham, South Stoneham, Swaythling and Chilworth and elsewhere. In 1845, Charlotte Maria Beckford appears to have leased South Stoneham House for her Aunt Maria Beckford and her sister Lucy Middleton.

The 1851 Census show that Aunt Maria and her niece Lucy employed several servants to look after them - Butler, Footman, Housekeeper, Lady's Maid, Cook, Housemaid, Under Housemaid, Kitchenmaid, Coachman and a gardener.

According to the 'Hampshire Telegraph and Sussex Chronicle' September 1848, Maria Beckford is among a list of new subscribers to the Hampshire County Hospital. Maria and Lucy lived at South Stoneham House until Maria died in June 1854, living to the grand age of 86, she was buried in the hamlet of Froxfield. Lucy Middleton then moved to the Town of Southampton, she never married.



South Stoneham House
Photograph Courtesy of Wikipedia

Charlotte Middleton's brother Francis Love Beckford had a mansion in Southampton, his name appearing on the list of voters registered to elect two burgesses to serve in Parliament for the Town of Southampton

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(c.1812-1820). The Southampton Library website's interactive maps of Southampton in 1846 and 1870 show Beckford House, which was on a site adjacent to today's Marlands Shopping Centre. Francis Love Beckford died in 1838, his wife Joanna had died in 1814, they were buried in the catacombs beneath All Saint's Church, situated Below Bar on the corner of High Street and East Street. When the church was destroyed by enemy action in 1940, the coffins were exhumed and re-buried at Hollybrook Cemetery in Southampton. Basing Park was sold to Richard Norris in 1813.



**A mock-up of a row of Terrace Houses in 'Manchester Street'
Manchester Street disappeared when Marlands Shopping Centre was built, Beckford Terrace aligned
Manchester Street which led to Beckford House**

John and Charlotte Middleton's eldest son John Henry (b.1796) joined the East India Company as an Artillery Cadet in 1812, he rose to the rank of Brevet Captain Bengal Artillery, died at Cawnpore, India in March 1831.

In 1822, in Weybridge, Surrey, Susan Anne Middleton married Lieutenant Nathaniel Barwell RN. They had a son, Edward Henry and a daughter, Maria Emilia.

In 1824, Charlotte Lydia Elizabeth Middleton married Septimus Burton esquire of York Terrace, Regent's Park, London. They had one son, Arthur.

Frederick Graeme Middleton married Caroline Auchmuty of Ireland, took Holy Orders, he was Curate of Hawkhurst (1828), Southborough Chapel, Kent (1834), Bembridge, Isle of Wight where four of their offspring were baptised, Rector of Medstead 1851-1863. They had eight children.

HATCH FARM - extracts from Hatch Farm diary (1896)

Part 5

By Pauline Berry

The hot summer of 1896 has arrived and the month of June on Hatch Farm, West End, is busier than ever. Albert Fray's farm-hands were Davis, Tom, Sid and Carter plus others who were employed to help on an 'ad hoc' basis. I have added odd words here and there for explanation.



- June 1st Very hot again today. Chapel Fair held in Southampton. James (son) and I went for an hour but did not buy anything.... I got out mowing machine ready to commence tomorrow. Put sheep into vetches in Barnsland. (Farm-hands all busy on farm).
- June 2nd Very hot and drying. We have begun to cut the grass for hay, but the machine has broken down ... Fred Pearce came and bought the calves of Rose, Spot and Grizzle for £3. 7s. 6d. (total)
- June 3rd Very hot all day. All the men have been hoeing (in the fields). I have taken mower to Shirley and exchanged for a new one, paid £11. 10 shillings by cheque....
- June 4th Very hot this morning and some rain later. We carted a load or two of hay. Fetched the new mower from Station, rail (fare) cost 6 shillings Made out the Agriculture Return (information of land use and crops).
- June 5th Fine day ... Carter mowing all day with new machine ... I have been to Town, paid bills, Leggatt manure £15, Dixon for 3 tons (cattle) cake £15 ... rode my machine (new bicycle) to Swaythling then rode out with Father (George Fray).
- June 6th Fine day. Carter has finished cutting the grass by Bignell's (Quob Farm). Tom has horse-hoed the potatoes ... we sowed turnips ... I have cared for sheep and sharpened knives etc..

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- June 7th Sunday Heavy showers during the morning.
- June 8th Ploughing with 3 ploughs. I have earthed up some potatoes ... (men so busy they were paid overtime).
- June 9th Some showers today. Carter has finished ploughing turnip ground and started to harrow it ... Harry (brother) has sent the drill. Agreed to have Mr Fletcher's grass (his landlord at Hatch Grange next door) for £6 ... I shot two rabbits.
- June 10th Ploughing and drilling (sowing in rows) stopped by rain. Davis has begun to cut grass up Fletcher's drive (the avenue of lime trees). Been to Chapel this evening but not a very large gathering.
- June 11th A shower followed by a fine day. Drilling of turnips and swedes by Quob Lane, about seven acres ... Two of our children have been to tea at Mr (John St. Barbe) Baker's home.
- June 12th We have been busy today, drilling about eight acres of swedes with 28 cwt. (over a ton) of manure, by Quob Lane ... worked till 1/4 past nine. 'Spider' calved today.
- June 13th Fine day and very hot ... We have been busy with the hay since then ... I went to Town in morning to pay £40 into bank and brought home £22 to pay our wages.
- June 14th Sunday Very hot and sultry. We had Mr Painter (preaching) all day at Chapel.
- June 15th Very hot again today ... Carting hay stopped by the rain. Went to a committee meeting at chapel (Chapel Road). Paid Ryves £2 for mowing grass at Fletcher's.
- June 16th Very hot. We have finished carting hay from the field. Have been to a (Parish) Council meeting at the school (on Chapel Road corner) this evening. Mr Sheppard came and bought 'Damsel; the cow for £17, for the workhouse. Fred took her up there in the afternoon.
- June 17th A change today, we have had a good drop of rain which has cooled the atmosphere. Men have had to find jobs in the morning ... no overtime this evening. Shot a rabbit.
- June 18th Fine day. All hands hoeing mangel (type of beet) in morning. Hay making in Fletcher's Park (on Hatch Grange) afternoon and evening, 4 loads, 2 left to do ... Mrs Elliott (wife of headmaster) and children came and had tea with us in the hay field.
- June 19th Showers today, Carter has cut grass by Keeper's (Lodge in Allington Lane). Tom ploughing in rye, men hoeing. 'Red' the heifer calved today. I have sold her to Harry (his brother).
- June 20th Showery but we finished picking up hay on Fletcher's land ... Father drove over this

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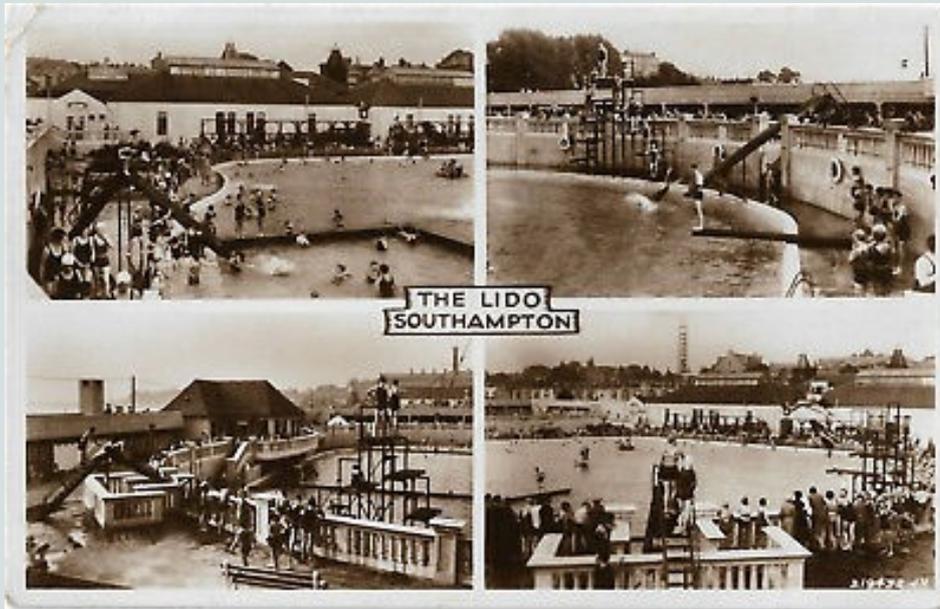
- Morning. I paid him £3 which I had borrowed off him, gave 5 shillings to the Flower Show.
- June 21st My birthday (aged 36 years). I have spent the day with Father.
- June 22nd Fine day. We have spent the day hay cutting, taken 6 loads by the Keeper's (cottage). Tucked and tidied up the (hay) ricks ready to thatch. Mother (wife Augusta) went to tea with Mrs Broomfield (Thorney Down farm by the present day Thornhill Roundabout).
- June 23rd Mrs Broomfield had 1/2 ton of straw. I wrote cheque (£6) for Fletcher's grass ... two horses and carts taken to Mr (Daniel) Haines and carting there from 11 o'clock.
- June 24th Showers today. Carter ploughing, boy working very hard ground where the vetches (grown for fodder) were ... Mrs Broomfield paid £1 12s. 6d. For the straw. Horses laying out tonight. (Shopkeepers) Mr and Mrs Langford and friends came and had tea with us.
- June 25th Had a very heavy thunderstorm today which has quite sodden the ground. Too wet to mow, so men have got some straw ready for thatching. Sent 5 pigs and 2 calves to Romsey (market) and fetched over £9, a very low price. Harry bought a heifer and calf for 10 guineas.
- June 26th Fine day. Carter fetched home 1 ton of linseed and cotton cake (animal feed) ... I have been thatching hay ricks. Knight killed a sheep for Giles (farmer and butcher) weighing 56 lbs.
- June 27th Fine day. Carter ploughed in Barnsland this morning ... I have been thatching all morning, men hoeing Father sent over 1 ton of straw and Fred has delivered half to Mr Perkins of Bitterne.
- June 28th Fine and hot. Sunday and (anniversary of) Coronation Day. 'Red' bull took ill and died today. Mr Hogg came over and had dinner with us.
- June 29th Fine ... Davis and Tom horse-hoeing in mangold. Two men flat hoeing worse patches in swedes. Have finished thatching hayricks.
- June 30th Fine day ... Carter's working in Barnsland ... Mr Blakiston (The Wilderness) had 1/2 ton of straw. Paid Father £3. 5s. For a ton of straw. Council meeting at school (corner of Chapel Road and High Street).

NB. The following day, Mr John St. Barbe Baker invited the Fray family to tea at 'The Firs'

THE SOUTHAMPTON LIDO

“Swim to Be Fit, Be Fit to Swim and Bathe in Water fit to Drink”

A review of May’s meeting by guest reviewer Angela Andrews



Multiview postcard showing the Southampton Lido c.1934

Our speaker for the May meeting was Jake Simpkin, well known to us for his well researched and interestingly presented talks. Tonight’s subject was a little different in that many present knew the Lido and in fact there was a good show of hands when Jake asked who remembered that illustrious building. (Sadly mine was not amongst them as I hail from Oxfordshire, though we had a lido there.) Jake told us he had spent many school holidays at the Lido which used to be open from the 3rd week in May until the 2nd week in September. Unfortunately there is no trace of it now but more of that later.

Jake quickly cleared up any confusion there may have been connecting the Lido with Southampton as a spa town. It became a spa town in 1740 and Frederick, Prince of Wales enhanced that reputation after his visit but there seems to be a fundamental difference between spas and lidos. Spas are associated with the rich and fashionable while the origins of the Lido involves concern for the poor and working class in the 1820’s and a need to improve health and living conditions.

In the 1820’s to 1840’s there was a growth in the provision of public baths and wash houses to improve sanitary conditions. The first such place was in Liverpool and owes much to Kitty Wilkinson, the wife of an Irish labourer, who, in a cholera epidemic, encouraged women to wash their clothes in her back yard using a form of bleach. This was recognized by public health officials and in 1842, the first warm, freshwater public baths and wash house was opened in Liverpool. In 1848, the Public Health Act was passed which led to local authorities acting to clean up cities and towns. Most of the improvements were instigated at a corporation level rather than the government being directly involved.

In 1848-9, there was a cholera epidemic in Southampton in which 240 people died. Three men, William Ranger, a Public Board of Health Inspector, Captain Engledue of P & O, who needed a healthy workforce, and Joseph Stebbing, a local business man, founded the Southampton Chamber of Commerce. In 1854 the Southampton Public Baths and Wash House Company was founded and the open air public baths and wash house were built to give the growing working population somewhere for laundry and washing. It was situated at the West Gate near where we now find the new(ish) John Lewis. At first it was alone but later was flanked on one side by the power station and on the other by the Pirelli factory. Many people

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remember the smell of the Lido being a mix of synthetic rubber and soot together with the chlorine. From the 1890's, there was a growing awareness of health, fitness and beauty and so sunbathing and other leisure activities became more popular. In 1890, the public baths and wash house was bought by the Corporation and rebuilt to include indoor ladies' and gents' pools at the front of the premises. Swimming became more popular especially after 1875 when Captain Matthew Webb became the first person to swim the English Channel using a new swimming stroke known as the "crawl".



Southampton Lido - photograph taken about 1890

In 1930, major structural alterations were made to the Lido which meant the water was filtrated and was no longer salt sea water. There were segregated ladies' and men's pools and changing rooms although from the early sixties it became mixed. The Women's League of Health and Beauty, founded by Mary Bagot-Stack, encouraged women to pursue activities which involved movement and good breathing and the less restrictive attitudes to dress meant they could wear appropriate clothing. The Lido was popular for exercise and was also a social centre where people met for example for musical events.

1940 – 43 saw the baths closed because of the Second World War although they were opened in 1944 for the troops preparing for D-Day.



Southampton Lido aerial view by F.G.O. Stuart c. 1905

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By the late 60's, times were changing again with more people taking foreign holidays and there was a decline in attendance. In 1968 and 1969, there were fires at the Lido but a question mark was already hanging over the pool's future because maintenance costs were high and the pool was only open for the summer months. There were spikes in popularity in the famously hot summers of 1976 and 77 but the die was cast and in 1977 the Lido closed for the last time. It was left to decay for 4 years until being demolished in 1981 to make way for the Western Esplanade Development – Jake remembers this as a very sad time seeing the weeds growing everywhere when he drove past. He feels it is ironic that underground there were vast quantities of hot water, now the source of Southampton's geothermal bore. Jake closed his presentation by showing a wealth of slides of the Lido over the years and reminisced about the smell, the hot raspberryyade sold in the café and the sound of excited bathers. One particular joy was plunging down the long chute and he said he would never forget the occasion when he launched himself down but the lubricating water jets had not yet been turned on – his cries of pain from the resulting friction, he said, could be heard back in the High Street.

“Swim To Be Fit/Be Fit To Swim and Bathe In Water Fit To Drink” was the motto written in 3 foot high letters on the outside wall of the terraces and it very fittingly seems to sum up the enjoyment and benefits of Southampton Lido for Jake and many at our May meeting.

PICTURES FROM OUR ARCHIVE



The picture above comes from our archive and shows boys from St. James' School during a gardening lesson taken by teacher George Henry Elliott (standing behind the boys).

St. James' School had land at the rear of the school set aside as gardening plots for teaching the children the basics of gardening.

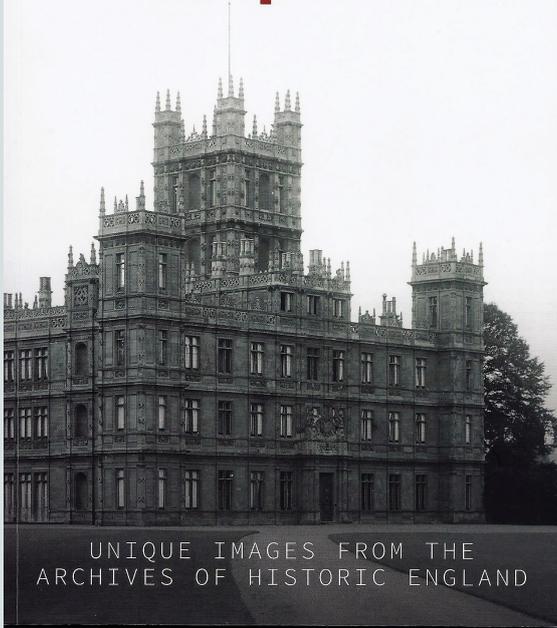
George Henry Elliott was a very active villager, serving not only as teacher/head teacher at St. James' but also served on the Parish Council. The Church Bellringers etc..

BOOK REVIEWS

By Nigel Wood



Hampshire



UNIQUE IMAGES FROM THE
ARCHIVES OF HISTORIC ENGLAND

HISTORIC ENGLAND – Hampshire

By Philip MacDougall and contributions by Historic England

This book contains an exceptional selection of images of Hampshire taken from the archives of Historic England.

The book is divided up into eight chapters ranging from Archaeology to Castles, Forts and Defensive Walls, Grand Houses, Local Villages and Work & Leisure amongst others, something for everyone's interest. The 96 pages are crammed with some of the finest quality images you are likely to encounter in similar books. Most of the 160 illustrations are in black and white with the occasional more recent ones in colour, all of which have explanatory text included, making an excellent and informative read and a perfect present.

PUBLISHED BY AMBERLEY PUBLISHING**ISBN 978-1-4456-9129-9****96 pages paperback 160 illustrations****Price: £14.99****Also available in Kindle, Kobo and iBook formats****THE PORT OF SOUTHAMPTON**

By Ian Collard

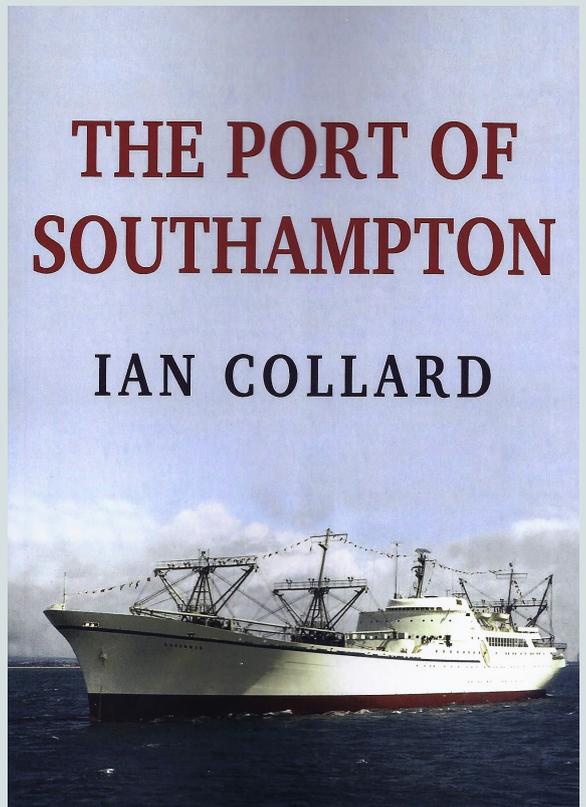
This is a book that captures the essence of the maritime heritage of the Port of Southampton. The first part of the book covers the history and development of the port, followed closely by brief descriptions and histories of the major shipping lines involved with Southampton.

There are some interesting illustrations showing the early development of Southampton's Docks passing onto the "Golden Age" of the Port ably illustrated by copious shipping advertising to compliment the beautiful shipping photographs both in colour and black and white. Names such as P & O, Union Castle, White Star, Holland America, Cunard and many others are represented.

Ian Collard is to be congratulated on producing such an excellent atmospheric book. A 'must' for all Southampton Shipping and Maritime History fans!

PUBLISHED BY AMBERLEY PUBLISHING**ISBN 978-1-4456-8641-7****96 pages paperback 180 illustrations****Price: £14.99****Also available in Kindle, Kobo and iBook formats**

THE PORT OF SOUTHAMPTON

IAN COLLARD

RECIPE CORNER - Sue Ballard

SHEILA JACOB'S 'DELICIOUS CHOCOLATE CAKE'

In the museum archive is a booklet entitled "The West End Community Association Recipe Book: a Collection of Favourite Recipes" edited by Gillian Owton. Most of the recipes bore the names of the contributors, opening a small window into West End society at that time. Some are familiar West End names: Haines, Owton & Topp, for example, but many appear to have been newcomers. Several clues enable us to date the publication to the late 1960s. It is typed, not word-processed, on quarto size paper rather than the modern standard A4. The cooking charts and conversion tables omit Celsius oven temperatures and metric measurements, which were officially introduced in 1965 but took some years to become used as standard. However, it is the four adverts for local businesses which are of most help in dating the book: The Sunflower (fruit, vegetables & flowers) in the High Street, Gange's Super Store (grocers) in Lower New Road, W.V. & T.D. Snook (grocers) at 39 Chapel Road & West End Supply Stores (general stores & provisions, with Green Shield stamps) in Swaythling Road. The 1964 Directory lists West End Supply Stores in Swaythling Road and W.V. & T.D. Snook at 35a Chapel Road. The 1970 Directory shows that Snook's had now moved to 39 Chapel Road & Gange's Super Store had now opened in Lower New Road. The Sunflower is in neither directory. This tells us that The Sunflower must have been a short-lived business and that the recipe book dates to between 1964, when Snook's was still at 35a Chapel Road, and 1970 after the opening of Gange's Super Store and Snook's removal to 39 Chapel Road. The list of contributors bears this out, with many absent from the 1964 directory but present in 1970. It is possible that it dates to the early 1970s – but the 1970s "classics" such as Prawn Cocktail, Chicken Kiev and Pineapple Upside Down cake are conspicuous by their absence from the wide variety of recipes, from starters to desserts, baked goods, preserves and home made wines. Typical of the 1960s, most of the recipes in this booklet are quite economical and several make use of tinned ingredients, a left-over from the War when good cooks used their ingenuity to make appetising meals from whatever was in the larder.

This easy recipe, submitted by Sheila Jacob, is a little more extravagant – perhaps intended for special occasions – and works well. The ground almonds keep it moist. Sheila A. Kift & Anthony C. Jacob married in Bournemouth in 1964 and lived at 2 Catherine Gardens, West End in 1970, nicely fitting into the recipe book's time frame.

4 oz butter 4 oz caster sugar grated rind ½ orange & ½ lemon 2oz self raising flour 2oz drinking chocolate (cocoa) 4oz ground almonds 2 large eggs 1 dsp brandy (= 2 teaspoons)	For coating & icing: small quantity orange marmalade 4 oz plain chocolate knob of butter
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"In a basin cream the butter and sugar until light and fluffy, then stir in the grated orange and lemon rind. Add the chocolate powder & ground almonds and beat well. Whisk the eggs until well mixed and add a little at a time to the mixture together with a tablespoon of flour and all the brandy. Finally fold in the remaining flour with a metal spoon until evenly blended – do not beat again. Put the mixture into a greased and floured 7" loaf tin and bake in a moderate oven for ¾ - 1 hour. Turn the cake out onto a wire tray and allow to get quite cold. Brush the cake all over with marmalade. On a plate standing over hot, not boiling, water soften the plain chocolate and mix with a dessertspoon of hot water and a knob of butter. When just warm and shiny pour over the cake and allow it to set. Sliced and served with whipped cream, this makes a delicious party pudding."

NOTES: A moderate oven is generally taken to mean preheated to 350F / Gas 4 / 180C (160 fan). I found that 45 minutes is sufficient or the cake will be too dry. The butter should be added to the melted chocolate before the hot water to prevent it "seizing" into a solid mass when liquid hits it – or you can omit the water altogether.

IT WOULD BE INTERESTING TO SEE WHAT WEST ENDERS' FAVOURITE RECIPES ARE TODAY. DOES ANYONE HAVE A RECIPE, PERHAPS HANDED DOWN FROM THEIR PARENTS OR GRANDPARENTS, WHICH THEY WOULD CARE TO SHARE ON THIS PAGE?

ON THIS DAY

On 5th. June in

- 1878** 'Pancho Villa', Mexican guerilla leader and revolutionary, born at San Juan del Rio as Doroteo Arango.
- 1916** Lord Kitchener, British general and conqueror of the Sudan, was lost at sea when HMS Hampshire struck a mine off Orkney, en route to Russia.
- 1947** Marshall Aid by America was imaugurated, for European post-war recovery.
- 1964** Britain made its first flight into space, with 'Blue Streak' rocket, launched from Woomera in Australia.
- 1968** Robert Kennedy, American Senator and younger brother of the late President, was shot in the Hotel Ambassador in Los Angeles by a Jordanian-Arab, Sirhan Bishara Sirhan - he died the following day.
- 1975** British citizens voted in a referendum on the entry into the European Community - result 17,378,581 YES and 8,470,073 NO

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JULY 3

THE LIFE & TIMES OF ALFRED THE GREAT

Kay Ainsworth

AUGUST 7

SOCIAL EVENING AT THE MUSEUM

(Including raffle and free refreshments)

SEPTEMBER 4

WOMEN, WORK & WOOL - the Women of Tudor Southampton

Dr. Cheryl Butler