

## New Books

**Hastings Pier - A Pier Without Peer-a history by Steve Peak** and **Unseen Hastings by Frederick Crouch** from the Britain in Old Photographs Service by the History Press both paperbacks @£14.99 "**Tush Hamilton -Still Alive and Kicking**" paperback @£8.50 available from Hastings History House and Hastings Fishermen's Museum.

Also of interest Sussex Record Society have published Volume 96 **The letters of John Collier of Hastings 1731 - 1746 edited by Richard Saville**. Obtainable from them price £25. A collection of letters mainly to his wife covering details of his family life and work as a lawyer with a range of government posts including the task of prosecuting smugglers in Kent and Sussex.

We still have copies available of '**A Survivor of Storms an Architectural History of Hastings up to 1750 by David and Barbara Martin et al**. A most comprehensive volume and invaluable to anyone interested in the buildings and development of the Old Town.

We steadily continue to sell the good quality second hand books you donate to us. These raised a wonderful total of £966.44 in 2016. Thank you. Our next **Book Sale will be from Friday 21st to Sunday 23rd April**. We are planning to have some books for sale at marked prices and others may be taken for a donation. Help with this event is always welcome.

**Hastings Fishermen's Museum** has undergone a slight counter rearrangement as well as the floor being repainted, thanks to Jan and her dedicated team of staff. The model of the 'Great Harry' has been returned to the Sea Cadets who kindly loaned it to the Museum for many years.

With help from Tush Hamilton Oxo's *Wonders of the Deep* barrow has been installed on display beneath the 'Enterprise'; it is currently being peopled with fish [if that is the right phrase].

A forerunner of this in Harold Place is pictured right operated by a man called Furringer

We are grateful to the Sea Shanty Singers and the Oresome Choir for the 2016 musical Christmas celebration.



Since July we have had visitors from Brisbane and Perth in Australia as well as an email enquiry from Tasmania; New Zealand; Alberta and Ontario, Canada; New England, Washington and Philadelphia in the USA. Many of these are looking into their family history and it is very pleasing when we can send them off to see where their ancestors lived and even better when hospitable Hastingsers invite them inside the house and give them tea as happened to the young man from Rhode Island.

We also get many similar enquires from those who haven't left these shores but whose families have moved away from the town. One such was tracing 'Toronto Terrace' in Ore. This amazingly still survives as part of Rye Road, though now only with road numbers. We were able to send a current photograph [right] once we worked out exactly where it was.

One thing all our visitors say they have come to Hastings and St Leonards for is the history of the place and the historic character which survives.

