

St Clement: The following persons for not coming to church for two months and upward; Richard Naldred, Margaret Labey, widow, Robert Cooper and his wife, Elizabeth the wife of John Fissenden, James Daniell, Thomas Paine, Mark Wright and his wife, Mathew Dyton and his wife, Mary pope widow, Mary Joy, widow and Mary Standbynorth wife of Richards Standbynorth; the said Mary for not cohabiting with her husband; Mrs Porter for using the office of midwife without a licence.

1676

All Saints; Doctor Swaynes wife, Goodman Purchin and his wife, John Coates and his wife, for not coming to divine service (all excommunicated). Mr Samuel Otes for not repairing the chancel and likewise neglecting his cure, which is between 7 and 8 months, Unity Otes [?his wife] for her cows annoying the churchyard and breaking down graves.

St Clements: R Moses Swain and Elizabeth his wife for not coming to church.... and not having his child baptised nor his wife churched (both excommunicated); George Bottom for having a bastard child begotten on the body of Elizabeth Medhurst before marriage.

1677

All Saints: Thomas Swain and his wife for not coming to church; Goodman Purchin and his wife for being professed papists.

It is assumed that excommunicated post reformation means they would be refused the sacraments.

Hastings Borough Council is in the process of producing a **Heritage Strategy** to which end they have employed Drury McPheherson who held two consultation sessions in December. Regrettably I couldn't attend but some of our members did. The slide notes of their presentation were circulated and these consisted of headings for discussion. Dennis Collins submitted a very full list of historic events and associations for the town. The Stade Partnership was assured at it's December meeting that the draft strategy would be circulated for comment before being approved. We look forward to receiving this with interest.

Sussex Gardens Trust have been undertaking excellent work in the town and the **Local List** is at last being

The Old Town Hall

This time last year a new and enthusiastic community group were giving up their Monday evenings to work up a business plan for to be a community run centre. Hoping consent would be given by HBC it was set to open in Old Town Carnival Week. But no, that bid was rejected and a play development scheme was favoured, due to be opened in Hastings Week. That has not happened. Apparently Change of Use was required which raised objections from the community as this could mean the building could be used for a wide range of unsuitable purposes. The building remains closed with the 'To Let' sign in the window. A new lease was granted for the **Stade Amusements** site last year and the site was immediately sold on for several million pounds. One can only hope the town's coffers benefitted to a similar sum but somehow I doubt it. This situation should not be allowed to happen with the Old Town Hall.

AGM provisionally Friday 9th June.

Next Book Sale 21st—23rd April

Fancy a Walk - then why not join one of our guides:

Our **Old Town Walks** start again on Tuesdays 2.30 from 2nd May and we are grateful to Erica and her team of guides for taking these, they meet at the top of the West Hill Lift. A programme of **Stade Walks** is also being organised so keep an eye on our web site for dates and details. Thanks to Nona Jackson at the Fishermen's Museum and her team of guides for these. There are two **Exploring History in Hastings Cemetery walks** planned for 21st May and 11th June at 2pm meet by the Cemetery Car Park. **1066 Walking Festival** runs from 13th to 21st May. As well as the cemetery walk above there is a special walk with Alan Jeffries looking at Hastings History from the Stade to the Pier. It meets at the Fishermen's Museum at 2pm on the 20th May.

You may be interested in the following:

The new Hastings and St. Leonards Society is organizing a coach trip to Hythe, in association with Hythe Civic Society. This is likely to be in April, but a date has yet to be agreed. Hythe Civic Society members will give a guided walk around the town, with visits to places of heritage interest. Places on the trip will be restricted to 28 persons, and coach fare will be in region of £10 per person. If you wish to receive details of the outing e-mail Steven: pompress@hotmail.co.uk