Good news that the Hastings Embroidery is to be on show - better in Rye than in storage. At least it can be appreciated and maybe it will result in a return to Hastings if popular.



Another discovery made recently were two most interesting maps one dated 1798 and the other undated but showing the Elizabethan Harbour and a town wall that appears to stretch a considerable distance along George Street.

Included with these was the title page of the Thirteenth Report Appendix Part iv of the Historical Manuscripts Commission which maybe the source of these documents.

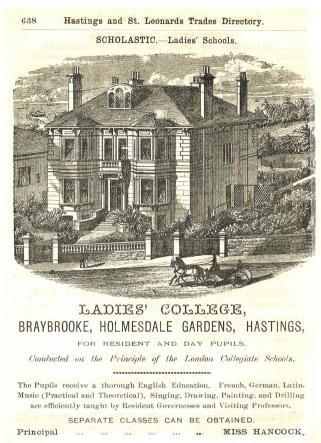
Much of this is available on line at

https://www.british-history.ac.uk/hist-mss-comm/vol31 and it is an excellent source of historical fact.

The records for Rye seem very comprehensive whilst those for Hastings are less so. Lots about the Cinque Ports in the Rye entries, troubles with French fishermen, witchcraft and the search for Thomas Percy 'a damnable traitor' in 1605, one of the gunpowder plotters.

32 barons of the Cinque Ports attended the coronation of James I and his queen; details of their costume and material with cost are given, taken from the Book of Liveries of Henry VIII.

How lucky we are to have access to so much history How full and informative council minutes were in former times.



I have been trawling the 1936 Minutes of Hastings Council and found the following extract; Meeting of the Council 10th January 1936 "Cllr Tingle asked the chairman of the parks and gardens committee *1 will you please inform me whether there were any ducks killed for Christmas in Alexandra park and if so what was the number and who received them?*

Chairman of the Parks and Gardens Committee Cllr Jameson replies

Yes 45. The Mayoress asked me to deliver them to various homes such as: The Tackleway Girls Home, Children's home London Road; several homes for Old People and other homes of like kind."

Huge amounts of business the Council had to attend to including:- weights and measures, food adulteration. Storage of petroleum, school repairs, medical facilities – beds for Rye Battle and Bexhill in the Sanatorium for infectious diseases, Police, electricity supply – needed on the Firehills estate with plots for 56 houses, an extension to the car park at the Pilot Field. 6 premises were given licenses for stage plays – the Gaiety, Regal and de Luxe cinemas, the Elite Picture Theatre, the Pier Theatre and the White Rock Pavilion, a new refuse vehicle and "Dennis" 10 cubic yard capacity was ordered.