



Old Hastings Preservation Society
Hastings History House, 21 Courthouse Street, Hastings, TN34 3AU
Tel: 01424 424744

Registered Charity Number 221623 Company Registration 611762

Newsletter Spring 2020



Wishing you all a happy and healthy 2020.

We are very grateful to Alan Jeffries who has taken over organising the Tuesday Old Town walks rota this year. These will resume on Tuesday 5th of May. We understand that there are expectations of the West Hill Lift being open by Easter, if so the meeting point will be at the top of the lift at 2.30pm.

We are seeking new volunteer guides-can you help?

You will find the usual events list on the last page of the newsletter and I must apologise for the lack of winter lectures this season. We are grateful to Michael Plumbe who arranged for Michael Moor, chair of the **Friends of Hastings Country Park** to come and talk, to a regrettably thin audience. Michael was most informative and it is disturbing that the location for the proposed fields of solar panels, surrounded by high solid fencing, keeps changing. The picture shown of an example of these in the Sussex countryside was horrifying. If these are erected in the Country Park they will be unacceptable blots on the landscape whichever fields are chosen for the site. By its very nature the area has great visibility from many angles. The site of the building at Rocklands can be seen from many points on the Firehills. If the Country Park is to maintain its status as one of the town's greatest environmental assets, solar panels should not intrude on it; it is also necessary that the still closed footpath from Ecclesbourne Glen should have the remedial work needed to be reopened.

Hastings Entertainments - Marilyn and I found this a fascinating and very wide subject to present. In the interval we had a challenge devised by Professor Hoffman a Hastings resident, a lawyer, magician and author. So engrossing was the challenge and so delicious the refreshments (thanks to Marilyn), that due to the hour we decided not to carry on with the second half. This will be presented on Sat 4th April at 5pm, tickets £3 unless you came to part 1 in which case it is free.

What exhibitions do we have in store for you at Hastings History House this year?

Currently we have **Hastings Castle** and **The Story of the Hastings Embroidery**. The display of this local treasure at Rye during the summer was much appreciated and the quality of the work astounded those who visited it.

From 1st March the exhibition will be **Hastings' Literary Connections** - the list of which keeps on growing. The Hastings Local History Groups are putting on two exhibitions this year.

From 5th May **Artists in Hastings**, from 1st August **Hastings A-Z** to coincide with a publication of the same name. We also hope to have **Memories of Crest Playgroup** during August/September, resulting from a project organised by Claire Power. If you would like to be involved in this there are a series of meetings planned during the spring. Please contact the History House for details.

From 1st October we will as usual have the **Bayeux Tapestry**, unless of course the town is hosting the real thing. News of that plan seems to have gone quiet, we might not be trusted to give it back post Brexit.

Some you win, some you lose—Stade Amusements - following its designation as an enclosed amusement park, fencing has increased and the footpath adjacent to the east end of the boating lake has been dug up, thus justifying the fencing presumably. No work is being undertaken on it and as usual the site is deserted for most of the week this time of year, providing no amenity value for the public at all. Many residents have asked when the footpath will be re-opened. I have raised this with Cllr. Bacon who said he will ask the chair of the Foreshore Trust.

I am very pleased that the Planning Inspector has granted our appeal with regard to rights of way across **Roebuck Yard** and has asked East Sussex County Council to put them on the definitive map. I am very grateful to those who completed forms of evidence for submission.

Old Town Carnival Week 2020 1st to 9th August

www.ohps.org.uk
ohpscontact@gmail.com

www.friendsofhastingscemetery.org.uk

Blog: <http://ohpsupdate.blogspot.co.uk>