



June 2016

**Tadley and District History Society
(TADS) - www.tadshistory.com**

**Next meeting - Wednesday 15th June 2016
at St. Paul's Church Hall, 8.00 to 9.30pm**

‘The Birth of the English Parish Church’

By Dr Francis Hurd

(Everybody welcome - visitors £2.50)

Committee Notes:

We would welcome additional people to join the Project Team, which is down to about 4 in number at the present time. There is no obligation to participate all the ongoing projects, just the work that is of interest to you. Currently we are looking at publishing a book about Tadley and the two World Wars based on the last 2 to 3 years research and exhibition material.

*Comments, queries and suggestions to Richard Brown (0118) 9700100,
e-mail: richard@ilexind.plus.com or Carol Stevens (0118) 9701578*

www.tadshistory.com

TADS Meeting 20th July 2016
‘Children’s Experiences of the Second World War in Oxford’
By Liz Woolley

TADS Meeting 18th May 2016

The Benedictine Way of Life
By Reg Fletcher

Hey! Hey! I couldn’t believe my eyes, to see a somewhat ruffled apparition in black emerge from the Gent’s facilities at the TADS meeting hall.

Luckily the apparition’s black hood was down – as you mustn’t approach, speak to, or comment about – a hooded Benedictine monk.

Anyway, Reg. turned out not to be a Benedictine monk, but a professional singer, especially of medieval songs, 7th Century Gregorian Chants (which he transcribes), the 1240 song ‘Summer is a cummin in’ and lots more Reg. is also a teacher, Schools’ Inspector, lecturer, he enjoys boating, cooking and writing, and owns a consultancy and training business. *(He had the audience participating in singing two of his transcribed works! - Ed).*

As well as mentioning The Benedictine Way of Life, he also talked of the Ancient Chinese civilisations and many other cultures.

Benedict of Nursia was a wealthy, scholarly Roman Catholic Italian lad born in AD 480, whose Roman tutors were too much wine, women and song and not ascetic enough for Benedict. His nurse then removed him from these influences and propelled him to a religious establishment nearer his home.

He soon rose to be the Abbot and wrote a 72 page rule book. This strict rule book didn’t go down well with amoral and immoral brothers and novice monks, etc., and his devotion to performing miracles from the famous Monte Cassino Monastery, caused his underlings to try and poison him

Benedict went to Fleury in France. One Abbot, Etienne, from this French monastery had been in contact with Winchester Cathedral. He was made a canon with the permission of the Archbishop of Canterbury. Reg. went to Fleury Abbey too. He obviously has influence and friends in high places



Reg. in his Monk's habit - Derek Heath

Reg. told us he'd seen the Bayeux Tapestry in Normandy on a visit to France but had naughtily photographed it and got told off.

He had been permitted to handle, (presumably by gloved hand), a tiny 10th Century, 100 page vellum book which had the author-monk's signature on it. There are only three copies left: in Oxford's Bodleian Library, one in Cambridge University and one in Germany.

Benedict, by the way, wasn't a martyr, but died of natural causes circa 543AD, much venerated and revered.

Reg. is obviously a multi-faceted and talented person and we thank him for his vivacity, excellent singing and divergent talk.

Rosemary Bond

Wartime Tadley

Do you, or someone you know, have any memories or photographs of what life was like in Tadley during World War II?

If so, TADS would be interested in hearing from you.

Tel: 0118 970 1578 or 0118 970 0100

✉: tadshistory@gmail.com

What's on? Events which may be of interest.

Milestones Museum. For coming events: Tel. 01256 477766 or see:
<http://hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk/milestones-museum>

Guided tours of the Victorian galleries at Milestones Museum. Join our costumed interpreter for a stroll around the streets of Milestones and hear amusing, lively tales of the challenges of daily life, Victorian style.

The tours are included in your museum admission tickets. The tour starts at 2.30pm and lasts 30 mins. The last tour take place on Fridays 17 June 2016.

25 June, 11.30am, 1.30pm and 3pm 'The Imagination Museum at Milestones' bringing to life a series of museum artefacts through words and movement.

Willis Museum - The museum is running an ever changing series of special exhibitions in the Sainsbury Gallery. The Museum also hold workshops on assorted topics. *For information tel 01256 465902 or see*
<http://hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk/venue-events/52>

Of note are two events next month celebrating the life of 'Capability' Brown the Landscape Gardener. They are from 11-23rd and 18-27th June. And other events related to gardens.

Friends of the Willis Museum (7.30pm at the museum - booking essential for non-members. Book through the museum telephone number above)

June 16th - 'Remember the Alamo' The Battle of the Alamo (February 23 – March 6, 1836) was a pivotal event in the Texas Revolution. Paul Vickers will tell the story.

Basingstoke Archaeological & History Society (7.30 at Church Cottage)

July - No information

***TADS annual membership is £12 per person.
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