



January 2017

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

**Next meeting - Wednesday 18th January 2017
at St. Paul's Church Hall, 8.00 to 9.30pm**

'Gilbert White, the Gardener'

(Everybody welcome - Visitors £3.00)

Committee News

At the AGM Jim West circulated among members with a list of titles of possible talks for the 2018 Programme of meetings in the hall. We understand that the subject of 'Blood Letting' received the most ticks!

There is also the possibility of arranging a visit to the McAlpine Museum at Fawley, nr. Henley-on-Thames later this year.

Jim will be leaving the area in the foreseeable future and once again we will be looking for a Programme Organiser.

*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 15th February 2017
‘Tree rings – a time and a place’
by Andy Moir

TADS Meeting 21st December 2016

TADS Annual General Meeting

There was a good turnout of members which comfortably exceeded the number required to get the required quorum.

Thank you to all who came.

2016 had been another year of well attended good talks. The number of paid up members has declined yet again but the loss of income was partially offset by some generous donations. Regrettably the Membership Fee has had to be increased because of rising costs.

The Project Group had again shown the work on the WWI and WWII casualties in St Paul’s Church over the November commemoration weekend. They are now looking at using all the researched material to produce a book about the effects of the two World Wars on the village of Tadley. There is also a move to restart the search for the lost mediaeval village.

The existing committee were all willing to continue serving and were re-elected.

The Committee is:

Carol Stevens -Chairman

Ian Burn - Secretary and Website Manager

Peter McNulty - Treasurer

Richard Brown - Newsletter Production

Valerie Gilbert -Newsletter Distribution, etc

Neil Forde - Assistant to Website Manager

Programme Secretary - Jim West

Annual Subscriptions of £17 per person are now due. If you are paying at the January meeting will you please put your cheque (preferred) or cash in an envelope bearing your name (envelopes will be available at the meeting).

This will help the Treasurer recognise who has paid and get the receipts prepared.

Will new members please give details, including Phone No. and email address. Subs may also be sent via Carol (See bottom of Page 4 for address.)

So far 33 people have paid up, about half of last year's membership.

Herbert Harlakenden Gilchrist, Artist and Author, 1857 – 1914

During the AGM the above gentleman was mentioned. This is how he came to our attention:

Carol, Ian and Richard were clearing part of St Peter's graveyard looking for a WWI soldier's grave. They were surprised to find what had been an imposing grave, now broken, in a very remote area of the churchyard. The inscription on it was: 'Herbert Harlakenden Gilchrist, Artist and Author, Born 1857, Died 1914 Aged 57'. Nobody had ever heard of him. What was his connection to Tadley?

He was a known artist who came from a Victorian literary family. He had spent some years in the USA as a devotee of the poet Walt Whitman. In July 1914 he was found in the bath in his lodgings in Franklin Avenue, with his throat badly gashed and dying from his injuries. The inquest was held in the Fox and Hounds Public House. For a much longer version of the story see the TADS Website. It is currently posted under the News heading.

The Editor

George Stacey died on the 16th December 2016 at the age of 80. He was the eldest son of John Stacey and Sons the Tadley haulage, demolition, etc, company, now based at White House Farm, Nr. Pamber Heath.

The funeral is on 11th January at the West Berks Crematorium. It is expected that Company vehicles will form part of the funeral procession from Tadley to Thatcham.

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>

7 Feb – 23 April '**Around the World Brick Adventure**' - Stop the plot to steal the Crown Jewels in our live action LEGO® challenge

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>

21 Jan to 1 Mar - **International Garden Photographer of the Year** - the winning photographs

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

February 17th - **Donnington Castle** by Alex Godden,
West Berkshire Archaeological Officer.

Basingstoke Archaeological & History Society (7.30 at Church Cottage)

February 9th - **Excavations at Kennel Farm, Basingstoke** by
Damien de Rosa – Cotswold Archaeology



Derek Heath furnished this photo of the Committee taken at the AGM.

***TADS annual membership is £17 per person.
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