



October 2018

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

**Next meeting - Wednesday 17th October 2018
at St. Paul's Church Hall, 8.00 to 9.30pm**

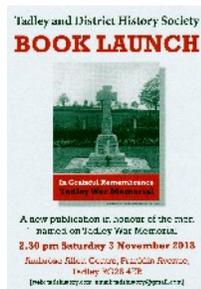
'Spies in Petticoats'

By Carol Brown

(Everybody welcome - Visitors £3.00)

The launch of the book based on **Tadley War Memorial** is on Saturday 3rd November in the Ambrose Allen Centre from 2.30pm. Copies will be on sale at £10.

All are welcome to come.



*Comments, queries and suggestions to Richard Brown (0118) 9700100,
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www.tadshistory.com

TADS Meeting 21st November 2018

**‘Everyday life in the 18th Dynasty
of Ancient Egypt’**

by Anne Roberts

TADS Meeting 19th September 2018

A Grandmother’s Legacy

*(An insight into 5 Generations of an Anglo-Indian Family during the
British Raj)*

By Jenny Mallin.

‘A family tree is so much more than just the trunk and its branches – it’s even more than the roots which anchor your life to the past – it’s a billowing storyboard filled with the lives of those past and present’.

What an enthusiastic and lively speaker is Jenny when talking about the five generations of her family who lived through the days of the Raj and the cookery book handed down from her Great Great Grandmother Wilhelmina. Jenny’s family tree dates back to the late 18th Century and were military men including nine Generals. The first, Ben Hardy who had been a weaver, joined the army and sailed to India via the Cape of Good Hope, the journey taking ten months.

Wilhelmina was born in Madras, India in 1828: when she was 15 years old she married and had to learn how to run a household, and this was when she began to write down recipes in the book which has been handed down to Jenny.

The next relative to inherit the cookery book was her daughter Ophelia who was born in 1855 in Myapore, India and who lived to the age of 89.

In 1860 everything started to move, including the telegraph and transport. So a recipe for a Telegraph Cake was included in the book to celebrate a grandson’s high office in the service.

Great Grandfather Daniel Shandly born in 1865 was a Permanent Way Inspector on the Maharatta Railway with a good salary, a good country house and his own railway carriage. His wife Maud Shandly added a Fair Rosamund Sponge to the recipe book. Fair Rosamund was the mistress of Henry II and Jenny was fascinated to learn that the lady had an estate at Cottington Hill, Kingsclere near Jenny's home.

Paternal Grandfather Gerald Donnelly, born 1887 was a railway engine driver and lived with his family in a railway bungalow. This was a prized position as engine drivers were in charge of many lives.

So through all the upheavals of life in India in the 19th and 20th Centuries, including the flattening of Rangoon by the Japanese when 20,000 people were killed, and the partitioning of India in 1947, the precious recipe book survived. Jenny's family decided to come to England after the Partition when it became clear that British families were no longer welcome in India. The recipe book came with them and is now the proud possession of Jenny.

Jenny thought that the book was so interesting and unique that she decided those interested in cooking might like to share it. She tested every recipe in it, all 500 of them, and reproduced them in a new book which included the family history. Like many unknown authors she did not find a publisher, so she took the gamble of publishing it privately. It won Best World Cookbook 2017 from the Gourmand World Cookbook Society and Jenny now has a career talking about the book.

Thank you Jenny for showing us the original recipe book (still in amazing condition) and recounting the very interesting family history that goes with it.

Ann Broad
(And the Editor)

Tadley Library

The library will be closed from 23rd October to 2nd December while it undergoes refurbishment.

During this time no books will be due back and there will not be any fines for overdue books borrowed from Tadley Library.

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>

22 - 30 Oct. Come along to Milestones Museum this **October half term** and join in the family-friendly fun! Make an amazing, Victorian spinning thaumatrope game, create Halloween masks, come along to our Victorian school sessions and be prepared to be scared with our spooky stories on the tram.

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

22 Sept - 27 Oct, **Machinery.** This year's exhibition from Basingstoke Art Club is themed around Machinery.

6 Oct - 18 Dec '**Marvellous Mechanicals**' An exhibition for all ages, which features modern automata, or mechanical sculptures, with clever mechanisms and often humorous ideas.

Friends of the Willis Museum (7.30 pm at the museum - Non-members £2, booking essential through the museum telephone number 01256 465902)

18 Oct. '**Silchester** - Excavating inside and outside the Roman Town' by Prof. Michael Fulford

Basingstoke Archaeological & History Society (7.30 at Church Cottage)

8th November '**Messages from the Front**' by Margaret Braddock – Archive researcher

***TADS annual membership is £18 per person.
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