

\..../
*The History of
Reading
Society*



The object of the Society is to cultivate interest in and to encourage research into the history of the town of Reading

Hon Secretary Mr P Russell 5 Wilmington Close Woodley Reading RG5 4LR Tel 0118 961 8559	Chair & Acting Treasurer MrJ Dearing 27 Sherman Rd Reading RG1 2PJ Tel 0118 958 0377	Programme Organiser Mr E Hooper
--	--	------------------------------------

Spring 2002

Newsletter

By way of introduction, this is a shortened Newsletter to bring you up-to-date with news and events. It is produced as an interim arrangement as the Society has no Newsletter Editor at present.

Annual General Meeting

The March meeting was partly devoted to the Society's 24th AGM. The uncontested elections that evening led to the following officers and committee for 2002 / 2003:

Chair: John Dearing Secretary: Peter Russell Treasurer: *vacancy*
Committee: Eddy Hooper (Programme Organiser) / Noreen Hooper (Front of the house) / Wendy Preston (Press Publicity) John Starr/ Bent Weber (Technical Support) / 2 *vacancies* (including Newsletter Editor).

At its first meeting, the new Committee confirmed that the Chair, John Dearing would for the present be Acting Treasurer and that Bent Weber would produce interim newsletters. It is hoped that these arrangements will not continue for too long. There are to be **urgent requests for volunteers from the members for a Treasurer and Newsletter Editor let alone another Committee member. *Your Society Needs You!***

At the AGM John Dearing in his review thanked Bob Hutchinson, the retiring Treasurer and Joan Hutchinson for their long service and praiseworthy work for the Society. He also thanked Peter Kimber, the retiring Newsletter Editor and Francis Goodridge for all their help.

Outstanding Subscriptions - Final Reminder

At the first meeting of the new Committee, the Acting Treasurer noted that there were a significant number of subscriptions outstanding. If you are one of these, you'll find a red cross in the box at the end of this line:

Please let the Treasurer have your sub. as soon as possible. To contain costs, this will be the final reminder.

Rates: Single member £9 (concession £6) Couples £12 (£9 concession)

Summer Guided Visits 2002

Our two final meetings of 2001 - 2002 - restricted to members only - take the form of guided visits.

Thurs 20 June at 7.30 pm: Visit to Mapledurham Mill.

Following on the talk by Mildred Cookson, the miller, after the AGM at our March meeting, the Society is to visit Mapledurham Mill. We are to meet by Mapledurham Church. There will be a charge of £5 per head levied by Mapledurham Estate.

Directions: from Reading, go north over Caversham Bridge, then turn left at traffic lights on north side of bridge into the **A4074** to Wallingford. Follow this road for about 3 miles to the *Pack Saddle Public House*. On the right hand side of the road you will see a sign showing a left turn to Mapledurham House. Take this turning and follow road to the end at Mapledurham Church. The Estate Office will be opening the gates for us so that we can park near the Mill.

Thurs 18 July at 7.30 pm: Visit to St Luke's, Erleigh Road, Reading

Unfortunately Angela Spencer-Harper who was to have taken us around Stoke Row (as advertised) will be away at the time on a cruise.

Consequently through the good offices of John Starr, we have the opportunity to see the Kempe Windows of St Luke's. John wrote an article* in the Newsletter a year ago on these windows by **C E Kempe**, the noted Victorian glass artist and he will guide us round. (*copies will be available on the evening). This will be a unique opportunity to be guided round the church's valuable heritage.

Finally in this issue of the Newsletter:

- at the end of our meeting on 18 April (Jean Heward's talk on Edward VII) did anyone by mistake take the Parish Clerk's black leather type jacket away with them? Michael(?) who is big & broad left his jacket over a chair in the coffee kitchenette area. In the pockets were some keys, tablets and possibly a church badge. Michael would appreciate the jacket's return, please.

Those whose email addresses are known, will receive this electronically: please fold the A4 printed page in half, so that the 2 pages back each other.