



**Blockley Heritage Society**  
**Park Road, Blockley,**  
**GL56 9BY**



## **GLHA Summer Afternoon 2023 – Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July**

### **Blockley – A Village in the North Cotswolds**

We look forward to welcoming you to Blockley, in the North Cotswolds. In recent years our village has been recognised as a holiday venue, for its walking opportunities and as the ‘home’ of the BBC’s Father Brown - but there is so much more to Blockley as you will see. We hope to share our special heritage with you. We will gather at St George’s Hall in Park Road from 1 pm, allowing time to view displays based on themes developed for recent exhibitions and showcasing key features & characters that played a part in developing the village as we see it today.

<b>1.00 pm</b>	Doors at St George’s Hall open with tea/coffee & soft drinks available. Local history displays, including stands from Chipping Campden & Moreton-in-Marsh History Societies, as well as Blockley Heritage Society. Our Library in the Heritage Centre will also be open.
<b>2.00 pm</b>	Welcome by Dr Steven Blake, Chair of GLHA, & David Artingstall, Chair of Blockley Heritage Society (BHS). Jeremy Bourne, President of BHS, will deliver a brief introduction to the history of Blockley Parish.
<b>2.30 pm</b>	Our main activities for the afternoon, including group walks, visits and talks (see details below).
<b>4.00-5.00 pm</b>	Afternoon tea served in St George’s Hall, including home-made sandwiches and cakes.

**You are invited to select one of the following activities to enjoy during the afternoon:**

**Talk: ‘Northwick Park’ (Roger Thornburgh, BHS Curator):** This illustrated talk will tell the story of the Northwick Estate that has featured strongly in the history of Blockley for a thousand years or so, and the people associated with it, in particular the Rushout family, the principal landowners and ‘lords of the manor’.

**The talk will take place in the Jubilee Hall in the Heritage Centre (next to St George’s Hall).**

**Walk 1: St Peter & St Paul Church (Jeremy Bourne, President, BHS):** There has been a church at Blockley on the present site for at least 1200 years. First constructed as an Anglo-Saxon minster church during the time of Ceowulf or Offa, it was rebuilt by the Normans and complete in 1189 AD. It was considerably altered and extended at various periods. Its history is enlightening, and it derives great interest from its variety of styles. The talk will look at the architecture, the monuments and stained glass, some of which is important, and the history of good *and* bad people associated with the church!

**The total walking distance is approx. ½ mile, with seating within the church.**

**Walk 2: ‘Gone Shopping’ (Penny Balhatchet, Trustee BHS):** This walk takes visitors past today’s village shop & café and along the length of the High Street that ends at Dovedale Wood. Physical evidence such as large or bay windows, traces of old signs or metal fastenings and lettering on walls or windows help to identify Blockley’s many ‘lost shops’. Along the way, memories recounted from both sides of the counter will allow the visitor to imagine the day-to-day life of a once vibrant, self-sufficient community.

**The total length of this walk is approx. 2 miles.**

**Walk 3: Snugborough Mill (Rupert Williams-Ellis, owner):** 12 water mills were recorded in Blockley in the Domesday Book of 1086. Since that time, as many as 16 permanent water mills have been built, many sited along the spring fed Blockley brook. A brief history of these mills will be given, explaining how they were used for a variety of purposes: fulling, corn, silk spinning, industrial and power generation, all playing a vital and integral role in the history of Blockley parish. Today they are private houses, many with delightful waterside gardens. The guided visit to Snugborough Mill will take in its fascinating history, going back to at least 1299, when it was the Bishop of Worcester's private mill associated with the Bishop's Palace in Blockley. The water systems that drove waterwheels and turbines will be viewed and the many phases of rebuilding and restoration of the mill buildings (including the most recent works) will be explained.

**The total walking distance is approx. 1 mile, with a steep hill to/from the mill itself.**

For those wishing to spend all day locally a cafe and two public houses can be found in Blockley. Chipping Campden and Moreton-in-Marsh are both only around 3 miles away.

You may also be interested to know that as part of a musical weekend in Blockley there will be **two short concerts** in the village church of **Saint Peter & Saint Paul, Blockley** on Sunday July 2<sup>nd</sup> either side of the GLHA event - free to visitors, no booking required (see below for details). **In addition, the church tower will be open to GLHA visitors between 12.00 and 1.00.**

I hope these activities will prove of interest and I personally look forward to welcoming you to Blockley on 2<sup>nd</sup> July.



**David Artingstall, Chair Blockley Heritage Society**

**Booking arrangements. Cost £10 per person to include afternoon tea.**

To book places on the talk or one of the three walks, please complete and return the application form, including payment choice. Numbers for each walk will necessarily be restricted, so we ask that you make a first and second choice.

Whilst there is ample parking available on the Heritage Centre/St George's Hall site, we would encourage participants to carpool where possible. Directions will be provided for all confirmed bookings.

**Blockley** lies within the natural contours of a steep Cotswolds valley and therefore the walks are not on level ground. **Minibus transport** will be available for anyone requiring assistance in accessing the venues for Walks 1 and 3. Visitors are asked to indicate if this will be required. You are advised to wear appropriate footwear and clothing for the weather conditions on the day.

**Blockley Music Weekend, Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, Blockley Church**

11:15 to 12 noon Tea, coffee and biscuits from 10:45 am	4:00 to 4:30 pm
<b>Blockley Chamber Concerts 'Next Generation'</b> <b>Recital – The Longborough Festival Opera</b> <b>Youth Chorus</b> presenting a taster of their forthcoming opera.  <b>Purcell 's <i>The Fairy Queen</i></b>	<b>Organ Recital &amp; Talk by Richard Stephens</b> celebrating Blockley's fine village organ, dating back to the 18 <sup>th</sup> century.  <b>Music by JS Bach, John Stanley, Henry Blow and Charles Wesley.</b>

## GLHA Summer Afternoon, Blockley, 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2003: Booking Form

### Cost £10 per person to include afternoon tea

Blockley Heritage Society very much looks forward to welcoming you to our special part of the Cotswolds on **Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2023.**

To book your place(s) on either the talk or one of the three walks please complete the details below and email the form to Penny Balhatchet ([p57b@icloud.com](mailto:p57b@icloud.com)). Every effort will be made to give visitors their first choice, but depending on demand, we are unable to guarantee this.

Payment of £10 per person should preferably be made by Bank Transfer as follows, putting your name as the reference.

**Bank details:** CAF Bank  
**Name:** Blockley Heritage Society  
**Sort code:** 40-52-40  
**Account number:** 00016062

Alternatively, payment may be made by cheque payable to **Blockley Heritage Society**, and sent to: **Hilary Sutton, Blockley Heritage Society, Landgate, Draycott, Gloucs. GL56 9LB.**

Completed forms must be received by **May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023.** We will acknowledge your booking by email or telephone.

Enquiries or for further details, please contact Penny Balhatchet, via email: [p57b@icloud.com](mailto:p57b@icloud.com) or telephone 07907 858 365.

**Name of your History Group:**

**Name of Participant 1 :**

**Name of Participant 2 :**

**Address:**

**Email address:**

**Telephone Landline:**

**Mobile Number:**

**Choice of activity (Talk, Walks 1, 2 or 3)**

<b>Participant 1:</b>	<b>1st choice:</b>		<b>2nd choice:</b>	
<b>Participant 2:</b>	<b>1st choice:</b>		<b>2nd choice:</b>	

**I have transferred £10/20\* to CAF Bank. Date of transfer:**

**[or] I enclose a cheque for £10/20\***

**Please indicate here if there are any special dietary requirements:**

**Please indicate if transport is required to access the venues for either Walk 1 or Walk 3**

*\* Please delete as appropriate. Add more participants if required, at £10 per person.*

*Personal details will be used solely for the purposes of communicating arrangements for the day.*