



The Architect's View of the Heritage Hub

When Gloucestershire Archives re-opens, we will be ...



Charity Number: 1165223

FoGA Trustees

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From our new Chairman

Dear Friend

Welcome to the latest edition of the Friends' Newsletter.

First, let me introduce myself as the new Chairman of the Friends. You will recall that, under our revised constitution, members continue to appoint the trustees at annual meetings but the trustees now decide who will hold each office.

For the past four years I have lived in the centre of Gloucester, but my association with it goes much further back. For many years, I often visited the City to research my Gloucestershire ancestors. They lived in the County for at least 400 years. I was always immensely grateful for the welcome and help given to me by Archive staff. I am glad to have the chance to repay a little of that kindness and hospitality.

I spent much of my working life in the charity sector and, since retiring, have undertaken some charity consultancy and also carried out genealogical research for clients from across the world. I hope both these interests will help me make a positive contribution to the Friends.

I am sure you will want to join with me in thanking Stephen Haygarth as he steps down from the chairmanship. Stephen will be continuing as Treasurer (and as Chairman of the old unincorporated charity until it is wound up). It is hard to overstate the amount Stephen has done as Chairman especially by writing so many of the *For the Record* grant applications, the success of which is a worthy tribute to his hard work.

Our thanks must also go to Liz Jack who has done, and continues to do, such a splendid job not just editing this Newsletter (and writing articles) but also overseeing its photocopying and distribution.

The cost of producing the Newsletter is not inconsiderable, and postage costs are rising, so the trustees have agreed to make this the last edition that will be sent to every member in printed format. Instead it will be emailed to members who can then read it on screen or print off a copy if they prefer.

We realise that not everyone uses email; currently we do not have email addresses for about 20 members. If you have an email address but do not think you have given it to us, and would like to, please send me details at: <u>chairman@foga.org.uk</u>. We abide by Data Protection rules and allow email addresses to be used only for communications from the Friends and Gloucestershire Archives. Where we do not have an email address we will continue to send printed copies of the Newsletter, and other communications, by post.

The trustees are exploring new ways in which the Friends can promote the Archives and raise more 'regular' funding for them, which is increasingly important in these days of public sector austerity. I should be grateful to hear from any members who have knowledge and experience of marketing, the corporate use of social media, or crowdfunding.

I look forward, with your continuing support, to a very successful future for the Friends.



Thank you, Friends, for your Support.

Our new Community Heritage Development Officer, Sally Middleton, shared a quote that struck a chord with us all the other day: *Volunteers are unpaid, not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless'.* (from The National Council for Voluntary Organisations' conference, 2016).

And with the priceless role of volunteers very much in mind, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the Friends of Gloucestershire Archives for their key role in supporting the 'For the Record' project. Here are some examples:

Fundraising: The Friends kicked off their major fundraising efforts, initially needed to secure match funding for the crucial stage one bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund in 2014, with a sponsored marathon. Since then the Friends Fundraising Committee has worked really hard, submitting a variety of funding bids and generating income to make the project plans a reality. The building work is now fully funded so we're currently working with them to raise monies for the furniture and fit-out, and for the activities to be delivered at the Hub once the new facilities are up and running. I'm particularly grateful to fundraising committee members Stephen Haygarth, Clive Andrews and James Hodsdon, the OS map group, and all Friends who have supported the project with individual donations and/or supporting Friends' events.

Developing Gloucestershire Heritage Hub: The Friends also play an important role on the 'For the Record' Stakeholders Advisory Board, which has been meeting every couple of months since 2014. Represented by the Chair of the Friends, initially Stephen Haygarth and now Clive Andrews, they've made valuable contributions to discussions around plans to develop the emerging Gloucestershire Heritage Hub community, including decisions about the Hub building, branding and website, and this e-newsletter. Along with other board members, they play a vital role in ensuring the project provides maximum benefit to our partners and those wishing to use archives. Friends are also helping us to make the right decisions about the new Heritage Hub facilities. Most recently, we were very glad to have volunteer 'buddies' Liz Jack and Maureen Anderson with us when we were testing sound-insulated seating for people accessing Audio-Visual records or holding one to one conversations in busy parts of the Hub.



You can read more about this at:

https://gloucestershirearchives.wordpress.com/2017/03/03/blogging-abuilding-2/

And, as we move forward with the Hub fit out, we're grateful to have the Friends on board with plans to develop displays that will enhance the visitor experience. These include a wall mural to acknowledge the financial contributions that have helped to make the Hub a reality, the future donations that will help us to keep on developing it, and the key role of the Friends in making all of this possible.

Many, many thanks to all our Friends!

Heather Forbes, Head of Archives Service

Dr. Ann Bailey



It is with deep regret that we report the death of our former chairman, Dr. Ann Bailey, at the end of March. Ann was associated with Gloucestershire Archives for many years.

In a biography prepared for a conference, Ann described herself as an amateur historian whose association with G.A. went back a long way as she had studied under Brian Smith, when, as County Archivist, he ran evening classes under the auspices of Bristol University.

She was introduced to the hospital archives by the then Hospital Secretary about 1968, when the administrative records still resided in a glass-fronted bookcase in the board room at Horton Road, and was allowed to take them home to study! Then Ann discovered that there were case book records, and suggested that Brian should approach the hospital with a view to preserving them in the archives. Subsequently we ensured that all significant records came to the Archives. As a retired psychiatrist, with a strong interest in social history, Ann felt she had benefitted from the classes run by two successive County Archivists, Brian and David Smith.

David Smith recalls knowing Ann for over 30 years, stating that she was a stalwart of the History of Gloucestershire Research Group which he tutored for 18 years and he commends the splendid work she had done on the Gloucester port books project and on early coroners' inquests, amongst other things.

Ann was very interested in the Archives 2010-2011 collaboration with Devon Record Office and Exeter University on a research project looking at patient admissions to mental hospitals in Gloucester & Devon from 1948-1973. As a former psychiatrist herself, she was able to offer valuable insights and a network of useful contacts, and quickly became a valued member of the project team. Having worked with the project researcher to find images for an exhibition called "Dressing the Patient", Ann presented a paper at an academic conference in 2011 on "The Role of the Medical Superintendent", based on open access material at GA.

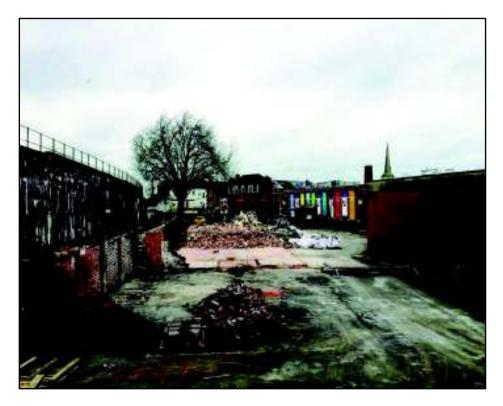
Karen Davidson recalls a very interesting conversation she had with Ann about the mental health case files held in the Archives, in which she mentioned how surprised and shocked she was to be coming across files for patients who were in Horton Road in the 1950s who had been there since the late 19th century – and Ann said that when she started working there in the early 1960s there were people who had been there that long, who were, by modern standards, as sane as you or I, but who were completely institutionalised and would never have coped if released into the modern world. It was very thought-provoking!

Long before the Friends of Gloucestershire Archives was in being, Ann started the calendaring of the Coroner's CO1 records (for Gloucestershire's Lower Division) – another interest that was linked to her medical background. But her interests spread beyond medical history to include aspects of local, social and family history. She was enthusiastic about anything relating to her local parishes of Haresfield and Harescombe and volunteered to transcribe the contents of the Horsley Gaol calendars (Q/Gh). Ann and Martin made several trips to South Africa where she researched the history of those Gloucestershire people who emigrated to the country in the 1920s.

Ann's energy, enthusiasm and involvement will be sadly missed. Our condolences are sent to Martin and her family.

Update on Building Works

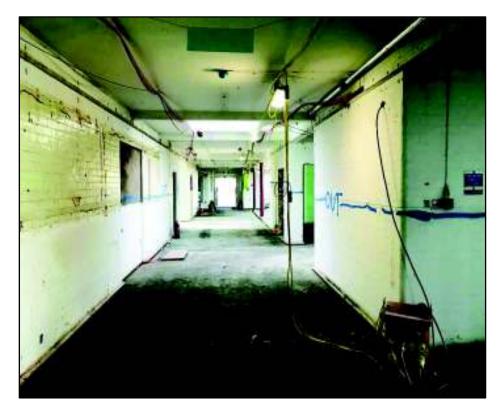
I'm delighted to report that our contractors (Lakehouse) started on site on 31 January 2017. They have already made significant progress, including stripping out the main building ready for refurbishment and demolishing the HORSA hut and associated sheds so the new strongroom foundations can be laid. Paul Lander is the site manager employed by Lakehouse to oversee the building works.



The remains of the Horsa Huts.

We plan to invite Friends on hard hat tours but the building project has not reached a suitable stage to programme these just yet. In the meantime we recommend taking a virtual tour by signing up to the Archives blog. Jill Shonk is writing a weekly diary on building progress called 'Blogging a Building'. This is also the best way to follow progress of the building work.

The blog includes interior and external photos and shows you what the Kingsholm School used to look like. There are some unusual features such as a <u>short film showing the HORSA hut being demolished</u>, a hedgehog rescue and the fact that there are 50 rooms involved in the refurbishment. Rachel Wales, Conservator, has also written a short article on freezing photos.



Internal Corridor removed, from Reception.

Meanwhile, we're doing our best to offer a service that's pretty much 'business as usual' for everyone that wants to use the documents in our collections. We're running a temporary research room in the Frith Centre, which is next to our main building - it's a bit smaller than we're used to so advance booking (of a space and documents you wish to consult) is essential but we can assure you of the same warm welcome!

How to see, or sign up to, the Archives blog

Either type 'Gloucestershire Archives blog' into a search engine or go directly to the following address:

https://gloucestershirearchives.wordpress.com/

If you wish to sign up to receive email notifications of new entries, please add your email address on the front page of the blog. This will be held securely and you can unsubscribe at any point.

How to sign up to receive the quarterly *Gloucestershire Heritage Hub newsletter.*

This newsletter includes quarterly updates from Gloucestershire Archives and our Heritage Hub partners (including the Friends). Either type 'Gloucestershire Heritage Hub newsletter)' into a search engine or go directly to the following address:

http://glos-heritage-hub.tfemagazine.co.uk/heritage-hub-winter-2016.

If you wish to sign up to receive the newsletter there is a subscribe button on each page. Even though it is says 'subscribe' there is no cost involved. Please note there is a difficulty with AOL email addresses as AOL blocks all bulk mailings as spam.

The Hub newsletters will all appear on our website at:

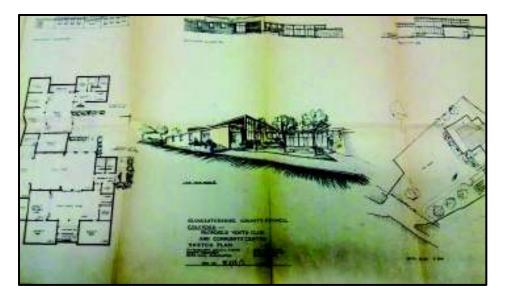
http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/archives/for-the-record/

Additions to the Archives

Since September we have received nearly 150 new accessions which have been added to our collections. Many of these have come from parish councils and churches as well as a number of special interest groups and private individuals. Highlights include:

- Palling and Carruthers families and Stroudend Tithing, Painswick (1587-1956);
- training notes of a nurse at Coney Hill (with photograph);
- William Stephen's Charity;
- photographs of Phoenix Ironworks; and
- watercolours of Woodchester Mansion.

One large accession which has recently arrived at the archives is a set of library plans. The plan below is for Coleford Library (GCC/EDU/6/4/2/13/1) and includes a rather fine elevation drawing which has reminded us all of another building project...



FoGA Events Programme

Sunday 21st May, 10am – 6pm A History Mystery Coach Tour of Gloucestershire

Our first venture out on a mystery tour with John Chandler last summer was such an overwhelming success that he has been persuaded to organise a similar trip again. Those who attended last year's excursion will know that this is an exciting opportunity to explore and learn more about our area's heritage without having to plan or think about the route. It promises to be another memorable day so book early.

Tuesday, 11th July (in the afternoon, exact time to be announced) **Owlpen Manor, near Uley**

Owlpen is a Tudor manor house only open to groups of visitors. This is an opportunity to gain an insight into how the wealthy would have lived during the 16th century. The house also showcases the Arts and Crafts Movement from a time when it was transformed from a dilapidated ruin of the 19th century into the comfortable home that it is today. Outside, there will be time to explore the gardens that are described as 'Old English' and which include a Georgian mill pond and a walled kitchen garden. Please note that due to the nature of the building access for the disabled is limited.

At the moment, because at least fifteen people are needed to make this outing viable, I would like to ascertain who would be interested in visiting Owlpen Manor. Please contact me as soon as possible.

For more information on these events, contact: <u>events@foga.org.uk</u> or phone Caroline on 01242 677 489

Research Guides

Gloucestershire Archives has a restricted service during the building works but have you tried using our mini research guides to find basic information on a variety of subjects?

http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/archives/starting-yourresearch/research-mini-guides

If you are reading this online, you can find further information about your area of interest by clicking on the links to each subject below.

N.B. If you can't find a guide to match your interest, you can have a look at further <u>Research guides from The National Archives</u> - or make an enquiry using our <u>Contact us</u> page

- Which Guide to Choose (PDF, 257.5 KB)
- <u>Alehouse Licensing records (PDF, 188.8 KB)</u>
- Apprenticeship records (PDF, 257.5 KB)
- Asylum records (PDF, 158.7 KB)
- Bankruptcy and Debtors (PDF, 343.9 KB)
- Bishop's Transcripts (PDF, 110.8 KB)
- Boards of Guardians and Workhouse records (PDF, 307.5 KB)
- Books and the Local Studies Library (PDF, 185 KB)
- <u>Census (PDF, 287.3 KB)</u>
- Civil Cemeteries and Burial Grounds (PDF, 351.1 KB)
- <u>Civil Certificates (PDF, 294 KB)</u>
- <u>Coroners records (PDF, 110.9 KB)</u>
- Court records (PDF, 214.7 KB)
- Diocesan Church Court (PDF, 199.5 KB)
- District Councils (PDF, 141.9 KB)
- Divorce (PDF, 212 KB)
- Election Results & Politicians (PDF, 212.8 KB)
- Electoral Registers (PDF, 262.5 KB)

- Estate records (PDF, 202.4 KB)
- Evacuees during WW2 (PDF, 110.9 KB)
- Farms, Farmers & Agriculture (PDF, 130.7 KB)
- Floods and Flood defences (PDF, 118.9 KB)
- Freemen of Gloucester (PDF, 199.1 KB)
- Freeminers (PDF, 200.6 KB)
- Gaol records (PDF, 125.8 KB)
- <u>Graves (PDF, 202.3 KB)</u>
- Hedgerows (PDF, 251.2 KB)
- Hospital records (PDF, 247.3 KB)
- Inclosure Maps (PDF, 205.5 KB)
- Land Tax (PDF, 183.6 KB)
- Listed buildings (PDF, 188.3 KB)
- Manorial records (PDF, 202.7 KB)
- <u>Maps (general) (PDF, 108.5 KB)</u>
- Marriage Indexes before 1837 (PDF, 185.1 KB)
- Marriage Indexes after 1837 (PDF, 183.3 KB)
- Military Service records (PDF, 221 KB)
- Military Sources (PDF, 207.1 KB)
- Marriage licences (PDF, 203.2 KB)
- Newspapers (PDF, 220.6 KB)
- Non Conformist records (PDF, 375.4 KB)
- Ordnance Survey maps (PDF, 111.7 KB)
- Overseers of the Poor records (PDF, 262.3 KB)
- Parish Registers (PDF, 286 KB)
- Petty Sessions (PDF, 208.8 KB)
- <u>Photographs (PDF, 128.6 KB)</u>
- Plans of Railways, Roads and Canals (public schemes) (PDF, 63.2 KB)
- Police Staff records (PDF, 209.2 KB)
- Probate Inventories (PDF, 114.8 KB)
- Property Boundary records (PDF, 286.8 KB)
- Public Rights of Way (PDF, 114.6 KB)
- Quarter Sessions (PDF, 143.6 KB)
- <u>School records (PDF, 363.9 KB)</u>
- <u>Shipping and Canal Boat records (PDF, 164 KB)</u>
- <u>South Gloucestershire records (PDF, 71.4 KB)</u>

- <u>Tithe Maps (PDF, 110.3 KB)</u>
- Title Deeds (PDF, 211.3 KB)
- Tracing People (PDF, 309.9 KB)
- Trade and Street directories (PDF, 201.8 KB)
- Transportation of Criminals (PDF, 326 KB)
- Vehicle Licensing records (PDF, 195.1 KB)
- Wills and probate records (PDF, 216.6 KB)
- WW1 Home Front (PDF, 243.8 KB)
- WW1 Soldiers (PDF, 201.4 KB)
- WW2 the Home Front (PDF, 305.3 KB)
- <u>1910 Valuation Maps (PDF, 176.6 KB)</u>

The Old Searchroom



Researchers on the last day of the old searchroom.

VCH - News and an Appeal

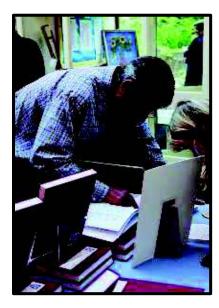
After the successful launch of VCH Gloucestershire Volume 13 last September, completing coverage of the historic county west of the Severn, the pace of work is picking up in our ongoing projects, centred on the three Cs -

Chipping Sodbury Cirencester, and Cheltenham.

To see the latest drafts, visit the Work in Progress pages of

www.victoriacountyhistory.ac.uk/gloucestershire.

Cirencester is coming along very well, and we are now about to start on some neighbouring parishes, thanks to welcome support from the Bingham Library Trust.



The focus in Cheltenham is on an interim paperback publication, likely to be titled *Cheltenham before the Spa*. The intention is fourfold – to get the names of our two editors -- Beth Hartland and Alex Craven -- into print, to give our local supporters some tangible return, to raise the profile of the project, and to address the persistent myth that pre-Regency Cheltenham was little more than a muddy village.

All being well, the book, in the VCH Shorts series, will be out in the autumn.



Oyez, Oyez!

The Gloucestershire County History Trust would be *delighted* to hear from people prepared to act as local coordinators for our volunteers in the Chipping Sodbury and Cirencester areas.

Our editors don't live in the county, so an onthe-spot presence, to act as a bridge and sort out practical issues, would be very welcome. If this might be your cup of tea, and you know what makes either of these two towns tick, please get in touch (email as below).

We still have a small local stock of Volume 13 at the introductory discount price of $\pounds72.50$ (+ p&p). Compulsory reading if you have any links with, or interest in, the Severnside and Leadon Valley parishes contained therein. Order soon to avoid disappointment!

James Hodsdon

jj49@btinternet.com

Iris Capps

Shortly after the last newsletter was printed, we learnt of the death of member Iris Capps. She was particularly involved with the Stroudwater Navigation and was keen to ensure all information relating to it was stored for the future. Our condolences go to her family and friends.



Heather with her Lifetime Achievement Award for Services to Archives and History.



Nick Thomas-Symonds MP, Sir Michael Howard, Heather Forbes, Lord Clark of Windermere

Fijian Independence 1970

Fijian Independence Celebrated Ferociously in Gloucester

Rugby is the national sport of Fiji and the introduction of 7-a-side rugby into the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro in 2016 saw that nation win its first Olympic medal, and that was gold. Rugby also played a part in the celebration of Fiji becoming an independent nation back in 1970. A 14-match tour of the UK by their national team was arranged to celebrate the granting of independence. The second match of the tour was played in Gloucester on Independence Day itself, 10th October 1970.

The opposition that day at Kingsholm was a Western Counties side made up of players from Gloucestershire and Somerset. The Fijian High Commissioner travelled down from London for the occasion and was introduced to the teams before kick-off. It was hardly the weather which Fijians enjoyed at home – it was a damp, grey and drizzly autumnal afternoon. This did nothing to detract from interest in the match. It was a sell-out and there were reported to be 20,000 enthusiastic supporters packed into the ground.

The Western Counties won the match 25-13, which caused the Citizen to report that "the Independence Day celebrations in the South Pacific must have been tinged with more than a little regret when news filtered through that their touring rugby side – some say the most entertaining in the world – had been beaten by Gloucestershire". In fact there were two Somerset players in the Western Counties side, but the Citizen knew where the loyalties of their readership lay, and indeed the team was cheered on as "Glawster".

The Fijians were renowned for playing rugby in an exuberant and robust way, politely described as "over-enthusiastic". This counted against them in the game, during which a stream of penalties was awarded against them for foul play, which ruined their few constructive attacks and resulted in 15 minutes of injury time being added. Indeed the match was perhaps the most violent ever seen at Kingsholm.



A FTER attending Fiji Independance Day celebrations in London the Fiji High Commissioner, His Excellency Josua Rabukawagh flew to Staverton and was escorted to Kingsholm to watch the Fijians play the Western Counties. Above he meets members of the Counties team before the match and below the Deputy Mayor, Ald. Freda Wilton mets the Fijians.



The report in the Citizen read

"Fijians image tarnished in Kingsholm bloodbath"

By the end of the game, the Western Counties casualty list included:

two fractured ribs,

a depressed fractured cheekbone,

numerous stitches to a variety of head wounds and

one player laid out cold by an uppercut which broke his nose.

Perhaps it was a good thing that Fiji were only granted independence once.



My House of Memories

The 'For the Record' project continues to develop apace, not least its



National Museums Liverpool.

dementia patients, their families and carers. Central to this activity is the My House of Memories app developed by

programme of activities for people and communities across

Gloucestershire. Our EVOKE

folK's Experience) strand is a reminiscence project aimed at

Valuing

and

South

Older

Gloucestershire

(Everyone

The app allows you to explore everyday objects from the past and share memories together.



Tap an image and the object is brought to life with a brief history, related images and an accompanying sound effect, providing a multi-sensory experience. Simple touch controls make the app easy to navigate and a helpful, Sirilike voice reassuringly guides you throughout. Users can save their favourite images to a memory tree or memory box to build their own 'House of Memories' which they can access time and time again.

On Friday, Kate (Maisey) and I headed to Liverpool to meet the creative team behind the app and to learn more about the design process. We discussed the kind of images to choose, and then we pitched a Gloucestershire theme, drawing on material from the Archives' local history collections. I'm happy to say that our pitch was successful and, subject to approval from the management team, Gloucestershire Archives will be the latest partner to submit content to this awardwinning app. (Images courtesy of National Museums Liverpool).

Roz Farr

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Nancy hard at work in the old map room

News from the GFHS

The Gloucestershire Family History Society has produced a new index on CD, compiled by Barbara Osborne and GFHS members, with thanks to the staff at the Crematorium Office. The CD is entitled

Register of Cremations, Gloucester Crematorium,

Volumes 1 - 10. 7th January 1953 – 20th February 1975

The Crematorium was built in the grounds of the Coney Hill Cemetery and the first cremation took place there on the 7th January 1953. Ashes were then either scattered or interred in the Crematorium grounds, on graves in both Tredworth and Coney Hill Cemeteries, or removed for private disposal at other locations.

While every care has been taken with this transcription, errors do inevitably occur. Where a discrepancy with the Death Index has been found, this had been noted. This Index does not contain the Residence or Place of Death addresses but, if the death was outside of the Gloucestershire or Forest of Dean Registration District, the compilers have tried to give an indication of the area of death. These addresses have been removed to maintain confidentially but the details may be obtained from the Crematorium staff at: Crematorium Office, Coney Hill Road, Gloucester GL4 4PA. They will look up three entries free of charge but for any extra searches, a charge could be levied.

Any stillbirths in the registers have not been included in this index and all children who died under the age of 1 year have been entered as 0 years in line with the entries in the Civil Registration Index.

Details for each entry include: Cremation Number / Date of Cremation / Surname / Forenames / Died (this includes where registered if not locally) / Occupation (if known) / Age / Sex / Marital Status / Date of Death / How and where ashes were disposed of / Volume and Page Number of the entry / Remarks (such as whether a plaque was placed or rose bush planted).