



January 2023 Newsletter

Looking Back



During the latter half of 2022, the Society enjoyed a variety of meetings and events. On a hot and thundery afternoon in September, Nicola Coldstream guided a group of members around three churches in the Stowe area: Broadwell, Lower Oddington and Bledington giving us knowledgeable insights into their history and decorative features from unusual barrel topped tombs to wall paintings and ornate doorways. In the following months, evening talks in St Kenelm's included Hannah Bourne Taylor talking movingly about her book *Fledgling* and Fiona Perigrinor giving us insight into the remarkable life of Eleanor of Aquitaine and the part played by troubadours in courtly life. Gerald Skinner also gave us a second talk about the Russian/Ukraine war, this time taking us through the Russian view of things and the mind set of Putin.



Christmas Party

This was held on January 5 at the Chairman's house and attracted over thirty members and partners. In the beautifully decorated and candle-lit surroundings, an excellent evening was enjoyed with wine and a superb spread of canapés created by Tony Warburton. However the Chairman would like to point out that there were a number of no-shows which meant, as the Society has to pay for wines and food ahead of an event and charge members accordingly, (an extremely modest amount for such an evening as this), the Society will be out of pocket. Perhaps all members could make it a New Year's resolution to advise the Chairman or another Committee member if they find that they are unable to attend an event having previously indicated that they would do so. This would be much appreciated and assist with our planning.

Looking ahead

Programme for 2023

Meetings unless otherwise advised will be at St Kenelm's church starting at 6.30 for 7pm. Members can bring guests for a payment of £6 which includes a drink and sandwiches.

15th March: The Mau Mau – Recollections and Reflections on Imperialism: Anthony Benn.

5th April: After the Gold Rush – a Californian gold-mining adventure: Jeremy Burton

17th May: Spectacle and Surprise in the Medieval Coronation Ceremony: Nicola Coldstream

14th June: The History Society's Antiques Show (details to be advised)

17th July: Traditional St Kenelm's Day picnic at St Kenelm's church.

14th September: Church visit; venue to be advised: Nicola Coldstream

4th October : Speakers from Gagingwell, Radford and Enstone will speak about items of interest in their local areas (details to be advised).

15th November: Manors and Communities from the Middle Ages to the present day: Anthony Gross

We look forward to seeing you all at our various events in 2023 and in the meantime, wish you a happy and healthy New Year

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