DISCOVERING HISTORY
HORNDEAN AND DISTRICT U3A

Southwick House (library picture)

April 2024 Welcoming Spring 2024

We meet on the 2nd Thursday of the month.

Thursday May 9th

Our next talk will be by Tony Pratt from **the Wey and Arun Canal Trust**. This is a registered charity, who aims to restore the 23-mile abandoned canal which runs through Surrey and Sussex and create the missing link between Britain's inland waterways and the English Channel. We look forward to learning more about the Canal's history.

The talk will be at 12.00 noon at the Jubilee Centre, Catherington on Thursday 9th May with a £3.00 charge to cover costs.

Please can we have volunteers to help at 11.30. Help is needed with collecting money, putting out chairs, making tea and coffee and with the projector. We will be contacting some of our members, but willing volunteers are always welcome. Contact Patricia -07711836760

Already we have 8 past events since we met for our Titanic talk in September 23. Thank you all for supporting our history group. We are very lucky that most events have been suggested by our present members which does make our life easy.

Fishbourne Roman Palace

Fishbourne museum mosaic, Penny, and members

Thirty-two of us will remember a very cold day in February and meeting at the café for a welcome 'cuppa' then on to the museum for our guided tour. A remarkably interesting talk from Penny Horsfield. Who knew mosaics were that interesting? She spoke about the Roman settlement and the mysteries surrounding this amazing Palace. Personally, the difference between the Romans here and the army remains in the North are quite striking. Obviously a much richer area with a magnificent Palace.

After our talk some of us had another cup of coffee at the cafe to warm up! Some went on to look at the museum exhibits.

Frances Hurd

March brought our talk, and the speaker Frances Hurd (see above) had a challenging time setting up her photos on the computer. What a professional lady, who managed to give the talk despite the problems. During her talk '**from Romans to Normans- the birth of the Parish Church'** she showed pictures of churches that many of you have passed when walking, both Norman and Saxon origins. The scene was set about the early Christians which followed well from our Fishbourne visit.

Southwick House and the D-day map

Southwick House is an early 19th Century Georgian house, unlike the photo I have used is in need of a coat of paint. This was the house of the Thistlethwayte family who have resided in the area for generations. For a more detailed history the following link will bring up some history.
http://research.hgt.org.uk/item/southwick-house/

Richard Callaghan and the D-Day Map

Richard Callaghan is the curator of the museum and the D-day attractions at Southwick House and treated us to an impressive talk about the buildup to the D-day landings, who was involved, and where they were going. The D-day map was the backdrop to the talk and its use was ably demonstrated by Richard.

Richard is a speaker, who did not need notes and his possible flaw was too much knowledge. We all enjoyed the talk in the wonderful historic building of Southwick House.
A few of us went on to the D-Day landing museum. This museum has free head phones and many stories about before and after the D-Day landings. The tapestry is really an applique freeze and embroidery. This is a wonderful exhibit.

Future Events

13th June The Brickworks Museum – guided tour - £8.00 and must be booked

11th July -A History of Chichester Harbour – Liz Sagues – Liz has written a book about the history of Chichester Harbour and will also include the role of Chichester Harbour Conservancy

8th August Watts Gallery and Chapel **(to be confirmed**) Self guided for the gallery and gardens Guided tour for the chapel must be booked to be confirmed. A lovely arts and crafts attraction.

A reminder for the talk of May 9th will be sent out nearer the time.

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