



Spring 2021 No. 45

What a strange year for us all! Many of us are now waiting for a second vaccination, with hope that we will soon be able to all actually meet up again.

Meanwhile the Lockdown Lectures have gathered in popularity and we are benefiting from collaborating with L&DLHS enabling us to give a minimum of 2 talks per month – albeit that some of the topics often a little more than just local.

The committee is still in real need of a treasurer, and at least one other committee member, so if any of you fancy joining us please contact me!

The AGM did not happen last year, and currently I doubt that it will happen this year either, though reports will be included, for your information. So onward with our new year of talks – and remember: any articles for 2020 Dorking History should be with Jim Docking by July.

Gwen Wood – Chairman

Local Weather Scenes of 2021



Glory Wood from Chart Lane



St Barnabus Church, Ranmore

Spring 2021 Programme

The programme for the next six months is enclosed with this mailing. Members will receive emails with any programme changes, 'extra' talks and zoom links for the talks.

Remember to register for each Zoom talk you wish to 'attend'. It is important you do this early as these talks have become very popular, but we will give members priority in attending.

If you know of any speakers that you feel would make an interesting evening please contact Garry on 07751 468948 or garrypaulbrooks@gmail.com

Compiling the Talks Programme

As one of the technical people behind "The Lockdown Lectures" on Zoom, I am on the DLHG Committee, and took over Meetings Convenor from John Patterson.

John did a sterling job for many years and had already booked a number of speakers for 2020-21. The Covid-19 outbreak, however, changed everything, so we switched to talks over Zoom. Several of the speakers John booked weren't keen on "Zooming", but most said they would if they could get a bit of training. Fortunately, I used to be an IT trainer, so this wasn't a problem!

The Zoom talks have had a few technical problems, but overall have been a great success, with many attendees asking if we can continue doing some Zoom talks after lockdown is over and we can go back to talks at the Dorking Crossways church hall. I rather hope we can.

Organising and financing Zoom talks has its challenges, but also offers new possibilities. In particular, it has allowed us to book some speakers who live a long way from Dorking. Consequently, we've been able to put on a varied programme of Zoom talks over the last year.

It's possible we may be able to hold talks at Crossways sometime after June, but we've taken the precaution of ensuring all speakers we book in 2021 can Zoom if needed

I've just finalised talks for November and December, choosing "Voysey's Surrey houses" by Anne Anderson, and "Collecting Postcards" by a new speaker, Richard Gordon. Amongst those I couldn't squeeze into the programme this year were "The History of the Hoo Peninsula" (Kent), and "The Royal Earlswood Asylum for Idiots, Redhill." Too much choice!

The Committee would also like to arrange a few outings – guided walks, museums etc- but at the moment we don't know when we'll be able to do this. Watch this space!

Being on the DLHG Committee is usually enjoyable and not very onerous. We really need a couple of new members. **Would you like to give it a try?** Amongst other things you'll gain some influence on the choices DLHG make, particularly the programme. Interested? Please contact Gwen.

Garry Brooks – Meetings Convenor

Surrey Archaeological Society 2021 Symposium



One payment of £5 gets you codes for both sections of the conference. You do NOT need to register with Zoom prior to the meeting

www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk

Financial Report 2020

Included is a copy of the accounts for the calendar year 2020. At the time of writing, the accounts had not yet been examined by the Dorking Society's examiners Cheeld Wheeler and Co of Reigate; an update will be made at the AGM.

The accounts show a healthy surplus of £1,168. Whilst it has not been possible to hold the monthly talks in Crossways Church due to Covid-19, a very popular series of online 'Meetup' talks via Zoom has been made available to members and other interested people. This has resulted in a saving in hall hire, a small increase in speakers fees, a reduction in income from book sales and a large increase in donations - the majority from attendees at the online talks.

Sue Tombs - Acting Treasurer

Subscriptions

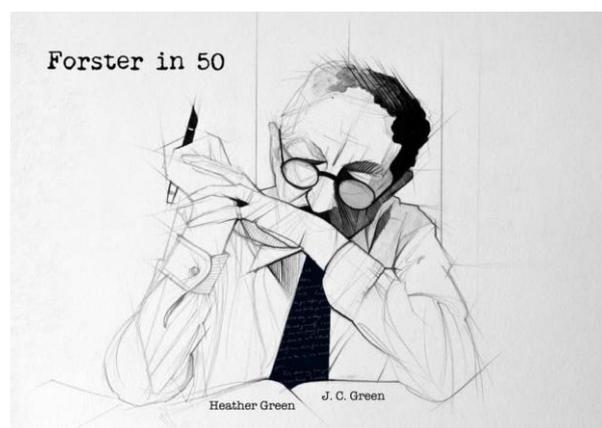
Subscriptions are due on the first of January each year and remain unchanged currently. Paying by standing order cuts down on our work considerably. It also eliminates the member having to remember to make out a cheque on the first of January.

Cheques can be sent to the Membership Secretary, **June Mills, at the address below.**

Future Newsletters

..... will usually include a feature on one or more of our speakers. Kathy Atherton has volunteered to be the first.

Forster in 50



Dorking Museum has had to postpone its exhibition on E M Forster, but the accompanying book is available from the museum online bookshop

<https://dorkingmuseum.org.uk/dorking-museum-books/>

Interestingly, there was an article in the Mail on Sunday 14th February about Harry Daly, a Pixham person who was a friend of Forster for many years.

STOP PRESS: DORKING MUSEUM HOPES TO OPEN THE FORSTER EXHIBITION MID-APRIL.

Membership

We welcome the following new members:

Celia Bailey
John and Lesley Grant
Roger and Pauline Davis
Michael and Amanda Smith
Tony & Jane Bourne

We remember the following recently passed members with fondness:

David Drummond
Andrew MacGregor
Joyce Mansfield, wife of Eric
Judy Houghton
Ted Molyneux
Vivien Ettlinger

Of particular note for us is the sad passing of the last three persons who made a notable impact on the work and life of DLHG.

We will include a fuller obituary in Dorking History 2021

To contact DLHG:

email: gwen215@btinternet.com

or visit www.dlhg.org.uk

Or write to us at:

Dorking Local History Group,
Dorking Museum, 62 West Street, Dorking, RH41BS