ASHFORD ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY – SEPTEMBER 2025

We welcome you to our first meeting of a new season. We hope you have all had a good summer. I don't think I believe it was the hottest summer ever. I remember 1976! Tonight we are pleased to welcome BECKY HASLAM of the Archaeological group finding out about Chilmington before it disappears under 100s of houses.

Next month, on Monday October 20th, we are hoping that Professor Paul Bennett, late head of Canterbury Archaeological Trust, will be well enough to come and tell us about some of his old excavations. If he is not able to come Keith Parfitt of the Dover Archaeology Group will step into the breach. There are no posters at present but we will get some done and email them out to you.

OTHER MEETINGS

Will has picked out several local meetings. I have put the list on the board but here are some of them:-

1. Thursday 18th September at 7.30 Smarden local History Society 'WW2 Bombing of Ashford by Ed Adams.
2. Saturday 20th September at 2pm Brook Rural Museum have 'Rural Craft Workshop: Smocking [Booking Required}
3. Wednesday 24th September Stanford and Westenhanger History Society 'Researching the History of your home' by Nathan Goodwin.
4. Saturday 27th September at 10am 'Hothfield Memories and Bell tower opening. This is a history of the church and the Tufton family.
5. Saturday 27th September 11am Appledore History Society open day 'Appledore School 1519-1991 at the village hall.
6. Tuesday 30th September at 7pm Kent Family History Society ' The Kentish Tithe Wars in the 1930s' by Dr John Bulaitis at Willesborough windmill.
7. Friday 3rd October at 7.30 Rolvenden History Group 'Founding America' by Martin Crowther at St Mary's Church.
8. Monday 6th October at 7.30 Woodchurch Local History Society ' Witchcraft in 17th century Kent' – murder and mercy at the Maidstone Assizes by Rebecca Warren' Woodchurch Memorial Hall.
9. Thursday 9th October at 8pm Charing and District Local History society 'William Harrison of Harrietsham : Clipper Ship Captain' by Stuart Bligh
10. Thursday 16th October at 7.30 Smarden Local History Society 'The Battle of the Hop Fields' by John Bulaitis.

OTHER MATTERS

1. Two editions of ByGone Kents for subscribers.

2. Most of you will have seen Chris' report of the Bodiam visit in August. We look forward to our visit to Belmont this coming Wednesday.

Help yourselves to books – all free. I have been trying to get up to date with reading the magazines during the summer.

I still have several copies of the book on Willesborough – an update on Igglesden. – only £7.