

# The Researcher



NEWSLETTER OF THE WEST SUSSEX ARCHIVES SOCIETY  
THE FRIENDS OF THE WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE

## County Archivist's report

On 16 June we celebrated Sussex Day with another edition of West Sussex Unwrapped with our colleagues at Screen Archive South East. It is always exciting to bring together film archives with written records, something that we first started to explore during the pandemic. Since then we have published over 20 blogs and delivered a series of webinars on topics as diverse as jubilees and coronations, lifeboats, cinemas, Crawley New Town and Chichester Festival Theatre. This year we joined forces with Screen Archive South East once again and marked the 80th anniversary of VE and VJ day by looking at the experiences of ordinary West Sussex residents on the Home Front in the Second World War. Photographs and documents about evacuation, rationing, air raids and the ever-present threat of invasion by sea were explored alongside films of Home Guard training and activities, including the wrong and the right way of dealing with Nazi spies. We ended with a compilation of films depicting the war-time experience and the end-of-war celebrations across the south-east. If you missed the live broadcast you can still catch up with it on our YouTube Channel ([West Sussex Unwrapped: West Sussex on the Home Front, 1939-1945 - YouTube](#)).

Sussex Day also marked the one-year anniversary of our new website, giving us the opportunity to review and reflect on the last 12 months. The website plays an important role in promoting and providing access to our services. As part of our wider digital strategy it enables us to provide remote access to our collections alongside our on-site service. We launched with 36,145 digital images uploaded and accessible on the new website, and now have 55,500 images available to view. An analysis of the website statistics over the last year shows that we have had 376,123 page views (showing how many times a page or screen is viewed by a user) compared with 50,889 for the old website in 2022/23. In the last twelve months we have had 20,722 active users and recorded 46,000 sessions.

To help people to explore the collections more fully we have published nine new online research guides to add to the eleven available at the

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

See pages 14 and 15

**27 September**

**Chichester in the  
late 17th century**

**BOOK NOW**

**22 October**

**Gatwick Aviation  
Museum and tour**

**BOOK NOW**

**15 November**

**Steyning Grammar  
School**

**BOOK NOW**

**July 2025  
ISSUE 130**



Jenny and Pamela L'Alouette on the promenade at Bognor, WSRO

DAY.	DATE	NAME	Time of going on duty.		Time of coming off duty.		STATE OF WEATHER.	REMARKS.
			a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.		
Sunday	4 <sup>th</sup>	Supt. Smith	8	2	1/2			P. Glover locked up Chas Jackson at 10 P.M. for being Drunk & Riotous
		P. Miles	-	6	8	-	Fair	
		Glover	11	9	6	1		
Monday	5 <sup>th</sup>	Supt. Smith	5.11	3	10	1.12		
		P. Glover	-	6	3	-	Fair	Chas Jackson Bailed out till 11 AM
		Miles	-	9	6	-		Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> - by West Anglesham
Tuesday	6 <sup>th</sup>	Supt. Smith	6.10	2	9.21	-		
		P. Miles	-	6	3	-	Dull	
		Glover	-	9	6	-		
Wednesday	7 <sup>th</sup>	Supt. Smith	6.10	2	9	15		
		P. Glover	-	6	3	-	Fair	Apprehended Mary Wilton - Drunk & Disorderly in Street
		Miles	-	9	6	-		
Thursday	8 <sup>th</sup>	Supt. Smith	7	2	12	12		
		P. Miles	-	6	3	-	Fair	Borough Bench. C Jackson fined 10/- including Costs. Mary Wilton sentenced to 7 days
		Glover	-	9	6	-		H.L. Stockham to Peterworth and Carter
Friday	9 <sup>th</sup>	Supt. Smith	5.5	9.12.3.12				
		P. Glover	-	6	3	-	Fair	
		Miles	-	9	6	-		
Saturday	10 <sup>th</sup>	Supt. Smith	6.11	5	10.7			
		P. Miles	-	6	7	-	Fair	A Fire occurred at Capt. Primes Bay View at Waltham. Interventd Fire Engines
		Glover	-	9	7	-		

Arundel Police duty book, 1869, WSRO

launch. The most recent ones cover evacuees, hospital and medicine, political parties and trade unions, scientific papers, transport and women's history. We have also added four new schools resources packs for teachers to download and use in the classroom. Not content to sit on our laurels we are using all this data to inform the development of the website and see how we can improve and add to it for our users.

This summer has also seen two more successes: in the sale room and with new project funding. On 21 May we were successful in bidding for four separate lots of archives thanks to the generosity of WSAS and a grant from the Friends of the National Libraries. With your help we have therefore been able to add two police duty books for Arundel and the environs, 1869-1876 and 1920-1932, to the West Sussex archives, together with two collections of legal documents for the Littlehampton and Arundel areas from 17th-19th centuries. These include papers relating to the Littlehampton Golf Club, Littlehampton Electric Tramway, the Littlehampton Ferry and the River Arun. We were also successful in purchasing a collection of sale auction particulars, including those for the Gratwicke Estate, the Houghton Bridge Public House and properties in Coldwaltham.

Following our Ordinary Voices Revealed Project funded by the National Manuscripts Conservation Trust last year to conserve the papers of the Consistory Court of the Archdeaconry of Chichester, 1554 to 1851 (Ep/1/15/1), I am delighted to be able to tell you that we have been successful in applying for a further tranche of funding to do more work on these records. The first project enabled us to conserve and provide access to 214 out of 344 folders of court papers (69 out of a total of 112 boxes) that were too fragile to be used by researchers. This new grant will enable us to employ another conservation assistant to work alongside Carina Rosas and conserve 65 of the remaining 130 folders. It is painstaking but very rewarding work, and will open up access to these important records and reveal further stories to add the archives.

Wendy Walker, County Archivist

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## Chairman's report

How quickly time goes! It seems hardly any time at all that we gathered together at the Barnham Community Centre at the end of March for our AGM and listened to Alexandra Harris's excellent talk on her book, *The Rising Down*. We had a very good attendance for both the AGM and for the talk, with over sixty people present, which would almost certainly be a record number for an AGM. We were also delighted to welcome Annette Lloyd Thomas on to the committee. Thanks must also go to Jane Mant for organising a splendid lunch and Leigh Lawson who organised the bookstall.

Since then the Society has held a number of interesting and well attended events. In April Dr Janet Pennington gave us an excellent presentation on the history of inn signs. Wherever we go we will pass a public house with an inn sign. They have their origin in the Middle Ages and will often reflect the life and times of the local area. As part of the VE Day commemorations in May we were delighted to welcome back Jeremy Prescott, who had talked to us last October on the history of the poppy as a symbol of remembrance. This time his talk was entitled 'Sacrifice & Remembrance' A History of the Commonwealth War Grave Commission.

In June we were treated to a fascinating behind the scenes visit to the Weald & Downland Museum. Many of us will have visited the museum since it opened to the public some fifty years ago, but few will have had the opportunity to see the amazing collections it holds. We were shown the extensive library, situated in one of the restored buildings near the old market house, and we visited the Gridshell Building to view the extensive collection of artefacts and also the archives. Our thanks to committee member



Carol Brinson for organising this visit, and those at the museum who made it such an enjoyable and memorable afternoon.

We were delighted to learn that the Record Office had been successful in purchasing a number of documents relating to West Sussex at a recent auction at Toovey's. Once again the Society has been able to provide financial assistance in the purchase of these documents, thereby ensuring their preservation for future historians.

Looking ahead we are very much looking forward to our conference at the end of September on Restoration Chichester, so do put the date of September 27 in your diaries. Full details of the conference and other future events will be found in this issue.

Finally, congratulations to our County Archivist, Wendy Walker, and her team at the Record Office for successfully retaining its Archives Accreditation. This was a wonderful achievement, and we can consider ourselves extremely fortunate to be associated with such a well-run organisation.

Richard Howell

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## Annette Lloyd Thomas – new committee member

I like to tell people I'm a defector from the east - East Sussex. Born in Lewes to an English mother and a French-Canadian father, I spent over 50 years in Toronto, Canada before returning to my county roots in 2022 when I moved to Chichester following retirement from a rewarding career teaching elementary school.

My father, a Second World War veteran, kindled my lifelong interest in history. That passion deepened at York University (Toronto), where I earned a BA Honours in Geography and History, and a BEd. There I was taught to look beyond received narratives - to seek out primary sources and challenge the easy assumptions of secondary accounts.

In 1999 I began a journey - some might say an obsession - to uncover the truths behind the myths of Georgian Sussex squire John 'Mad Jack' Fuller. That journey has taken me through archives across the world, from Auckland to Austin.

I've inherited a remarkable personal family archive - photographs, postcards, and documents preserved by my parents and grandparents. And it makes me wonder in this digital age who is safeguarding our emails, chats, and selfies for future generations? What will archives be preserving in 25 years? Will our data survive in retrievable forms, or fade like memories?

To me history isn't only about where we've been - it's about where we're going. By shining a light on the past, we illuminate the path ahead.

Annette Lloyd Thomas



## Sussex inn signs and their history

The true measure of an excellent talk lies in its ability to shift one's perspective - and Dr Janet Pennington's fascinating presentation, *Sussex inn signs and their history*, delivered at the Billingshurst Centre on Saturday 26 April, certainly met that mark.

Well known to fellow WSAS members Dr Pennington's publications and engaging lectures have earned widespread acclaim. Her credentials include a PhD from the University of Southampton in early-modern Sussex inn and tavern history. She captured the audience's attention with the claim "I've been in more pubs than you've had hot dinners." From there the audience was guided on a richly illustrated journey through the historical landscape of inns, alehouses, and taverns, clarifying their distinctions and origins. Inns offered accommodation, whilst taverns had a licence to sell wine.

She presented the earliest known image of an inn, a timber-framed, thatched building from the *Luttrell Psalter* (c. 1330), and explained the fundamental difference between ale and beer. Ale, made from malted barley and herbs, had a shelf life of just a few days. Beer, introduced to England from the Netherlands around 1370, contained hops that not only added a bitter flavour but also preserved the beverage, making it more suitable for transport and storage.

Dr Pennington then delved into the meanings behind some of England's most common pub names, such as *The Red Lion*, *The Crown*, *The Royal Oak*, and *The White Hart*. While names like *The Plough*, *The Railway*, and *The Ship* reflect occupations and transport, many others are steeped in heraldic and Christian symbolism.

Take for example *The Red Lion*, a reference to the badge of John of Gaunt (1340–1399), a powerful and once deeply unpopular noble who owned vast estates and was said to be able to muster thousands of soldiers. The red lion itself symbolised Christ's resurrection. Local examples include pubs in Fernhurst, Arundel, and Shoreham. Similarly *The White Horse* derives from the heraldic emblem of the Dukes of Norfolk. Notable establishments bearing this name include *The White Horse* in Pulborough and another in Bodle Street Green. *The White Swan*, a symbol of purity and associated with the Virgin Mary was the heraldic badge of the Bohun family of Midhurst. It features in pub names in Fittleworth, Arundel, and Midhurst, where the pub stands on Red Lion Street.

Royal connections are reflected in names such as *The King's Head* in Billingshurst and *The George Hotel* in Battle, which had depicted George III and George II on their signs respectively. *The Royal Oak* commemorates the tree in which King Charles II hid from Parliamentary forces after the Battle of Worcester.

Religious themes persist in names like *The Three Crowns*, symbolising the Magi of the Bible, with a notable example in Wisborough Green. A more humorous take on this tradition can be found in Clerkenwell, Islington, where a pub sign depicts a trio of unlikely kings: Henry VIII, Elvis Presley, and King Kong.

Amongst some of the more unusual local names *The Black Rabbit* in South Stoke refers to a once famous warren of black-furred rabbits. In contrast *The Chequer Inn* in Steyning, run by the same family for 110 years, traces its origins to medieval innkeeping practices. Chequerboard signs once identified inns that doubled as informal banks, using the checkered pattern to tally coins.

Other intriguing details included the symbolism behind *The Dolphin* at Littlehampton, representing Christ as the saviour of souls, with its ornamental wrought-iron sign brackets with a hook which once displayed a bunch of gilded grapes, a marker that license fees were paid up to date. This feature can still be found at some Sussex pubs including ones at Arundel and Chichester.

The talk closed with a quotation from Hilaire Belloc's 1912 essay *This, That and the Other*:

"Change your hearts or you will lose your Inns, and you will deserve to have lost them. But when you have lost your Inns, drown your empty selves, for you will have lost the last of England."

Annette Lloyd Thomas

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## Sacrifice & remembrance, the history of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

To commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day we were delighted to welcome Jeremy Prescott as our guest speaker on 22 May at the Midhurst Methodist Church Hall. This was Jeremy's second talk to WSAS as last October he gave us a fascinating talk on the story of the poppy as a symbol of remembrance. This second talk was equally fascinating.

Following the outbreak of World War I in August 1914 the question soon arose as to what to do with the bodies of the fallen. It seems the trigger point for this question arose after former prime minister William Gladstone's grandson, also called William, was killed in the early stages of the war and his family were able to repatriate his body to England. This of course would have been impossible for most families whose loved ones were killed in action. Soldiers who had died in battle would previously have been buried in mass graves. At the outbreak of war, Fabian Ware, a director of the Rio Tinto Company, being too old to fight, served as the commander of a mobile unit of the British Red Cross, and created an organisation within the Red Cross to record the location of graves of those who had fallen. As the war progressed photographs were taken and sent to relatives who had enquired as to where their loved ones had fallen. A Graves Registration Commission was set up in 1916 and covered other areas of conflict beyond the Western Front, which included Greece, Egypt and Mesopotamia. In 1917 the Imperial War Graves Commission was established with the Prince of Wales serving as its president.

By 1918 some 587,000 graves had been established and a further 559,000 were registered as having no known grave. A decision was made that bodies should not be repatriated and that uniform memorials should be used in order to avoid class distinction. Jeremy provided some fascinating and sobering statistics, such as that if all the British combatants who had fallen were lined up three abreast and marched at the standard marching rate of 100 steps per minute, it would take them two and half days to march past the Cenotaph in London.

Following the end of the war the Commission set about creating the cemeteries that are so familiar to us today, with Rudyard Kipling, whose own son died in the conflict, advising on the wordings to be used on the headstones and memorials, and eminent architects of the time such as Sir Edwin Lutyens, Sir Herbert Baker and Sir Reginald Blomfield designing many of the memorials. These included the Menin Gate, the Tyne Cot Memorial to the Missing, the Thiepval Memorial and the Arras Memorial.

From the beginning of World War II the Commission organised grave registration units and planned ahead, based on the experiences of World War I. As with the previous conflict, casualties were to be commemorated with uniform memorials and bodies would not be repatriated. In addition it was subsequently decided to commemorate the lives of 67,000 civilians who died during the conflict. Following the end of World War II, in recognition of the parts played by those from the Empire, the name of the organisation was changed to the Empire and Commonwealth War Graves Commission and subsequently the word 'Empire' was dropped around 1960.

Today the Commission cares for graves in 157 countries where British and Commonwealth forces have fought. It receives a budget of £55 million, some of which is contributed by Commonwealth countries including Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Canada. Bodies of those who die in recent conflicts are usually repatriated, although relatives are given a choice if they prefer their loved ones to remain in the land where they fell, as happened in the case of Colonel H. Jones V.C. who died in the Falklands conflict.

Not only was this a well researched and informative talk but it was also very moving. Afterwards we came away with a much clearer understanding of the story behind this remarkable organisation and the work that it continues to carry out today to commemorate those who fought and died for our country.

Richard Howell

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## Dr Caroline Adams

Born and brought up in Horsham, Caroline Adams developed early on, as might be guessed, a fascination with history. Her first degree was at the University of York, where she enriched a BA in History studies with volunteer digging at the Viking site at Coppergate and acquainting herself with the Borthwick Institute.

Starting an archive career as an assistant for the Mercers Company in the City of London, she broadened her experience by meanwhile volunteering part-time at the Northamptonshire Record Office. That initiative led Liverpool University to accept Caroline onto its archivist diploma course. Once qualified she worked for BP's corporate archive in London, before moving to the West Yorkshire Archive Service, where she worked in all its rather independent branches, latterly as a "flying archivist" filling professional gaps wherever needed. In this period Caroline gained a MA in Local History from Leeds University.

Back in Horsham in 1994 she joined WSRO as the Archivist for Outreach, a new job created to develop relationships with the public and local organisations. Caroline loved the external contact, organising talks, exhibitions and publicity, and offering advice to local history societies and others with their own archives. Local societies are an important part of the county scene, she argues, pointing for example to the impressive publications of the Chichester Local History Society. WSRO's culture, Caroline explains, was that staff were expected to take opportunities to educate themselves and develop specialist knowledge; she thrived on that, further building on her already deep interest in the sixteenth century.

After 20 years at WSRO Caroline left to establish her consultancy. Of course that was a risk, but she was well known and had many contacts. Work on house histories, teaching, archival research and transcription, and collaborating with other organisations such as the National Trust and the South Downs National Park Authority has meant a varied and fulfilling second career. As for any small business the CoVID pandemic was a threat, but Caroline understood that on-line learning was suddenly highly popular; teaching herself how to deliver on-line sessions, especially on palaeography skills, carried her through those periods of restrictions.

Caroline's prime reason for working for a doctorate at the University of Chichester was to give purpose to her ever developing researches into Tudor Sussex – though she enjoyed too the PhD hat earned in 2012. Her nine years study was supervised by Dr Andrew Foster, whom Caroline still regards as her mentor. Why did she choose the subject of Queen Elizabeth's 1591 progress in Sussex and elsewhere? A combination of Elizabeth's high intelligence and her love of local history. She wanted to try to describe what it was like for people to experience such a progress.

It is that elusive understanding of what people experienced in the more distant past that even the best archival research often cannot quite satisfy. This has led Caroline to write a set of novels about Elizabethan Sussex ironmasters, using fiction to explore what surviving historical material seldom covers.

Members will know that Caroline has chaired the WSAS committee, reformed “The Researcher” into more or less the format that it has today, and that now she serves on the Council of the Sussex Record Society (SRS). Her forthcoming SRS volume “The surveys of the honour of Arundel 1566-1570” is eagerly awaited.

Nowadays most Fridays see Caroline as a volunteer at the Weald & Downland Museum, where she has given much of her time. Her love of some of its buildings is obvious, but perhaps her favourite activities there are Tudor cooking demonstrations in the Winkhurst Farm building and making ink and quill pens at Bayleaf.

Caroline’s research and exploration of Tudor Sussex is continuing, and we should expect more publications in due course. Time for her son, daughter-in-law and her two granddaughters, and yet more teaching of paleography will, I suspect, not change her generosity of time and help gladly given to fellow researchers.

Kim Fleming

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## Behind the Scenes at the Weald & Downland Museum

Nestling in the verdant South Downs, the Weald & Downland Museum (W&DM) is a veritable Arcadia and an ideal place to while away a day, even if (for some inexplicable reason) you are not particularly interested in buildings – the atmosphere alone provides reward.

On 12 June Carol Brinson arranged for a group of WSAS members to have behind-the-scenes tours of three important facilities at the Museum. Carol has had a long association with the W&DM having been a volunteer in the early days, and then an employee, and now serves as a volunteer again as a librarian.

### The Archive Room

Julian Bell, the Museum Curator, was the guide for this part of the visit and he took us up the hill to the undercroft of the Gridshell where, in 2024, the W&DM Archive had been consolidated from various locations around the site. Julian explained that the archive is not in competition with WSRO, being devoted to records relating to the buildings that it owns. Those records start with the research into a building’s history and owners, moves on to drawings and photographs recording it in its original location, and then records the dismantling and numbering of individual components. Finally detailed drawings are prepared for the re-erection. Every building thus has a complete case history and drawings which are kept up to date to reflect subsequent repairs. The current recording project is the Land Settlement Association house from Sidlesham which will be joining the collection of re-erected buildings in the near future.

Julian demonstrated the archive of the Bookham dairy building using digitised drawings and photographs which shew how, inter alia, all the bricks had been numbered and recorded so that they went back in the right place. He joked that timbers were easier as they were bigger and far fewer in number! The archive includes 32,500 photographs and 80,000 slides which are being digitised, and also the famous Frank Gregory collection relating to Sussex Mills which was bequeathed to the Museum.



## The Artefacts Store

Also beneath the Gridshell, and occupying most of the space, is the Artefact Store which to me is the ultimate Box of Delights. Julian explained that when a building is re-erected it is in a form that reflects a particular stage of its life, and there will be many bits left over from its later years. These remnants nonetheless form part of the building's history and, too important to be thrown away, therefore formed the basis of this collection. Over the years gifts and bequests have greatly enlarged the collection, and it now comprises some 17,000 delightful objects.

As well as the architectural bits and pieces (including, much to my delight, Fareham chimneypots!) there are farming implements, tools relating to rural trades, shop signs, road signs and even a Victorian hearse. Nostalgia is available in bucket-loads including stone kitchen sinks and cast-iron lavatory cisterns as well as - yes - buckets!

## The Reference Library

The third tour was of the Reference Library on the ground floor of Crawley Hall in the Market Square. A sign in the entrance proclaims it to be the *Roy Armstrong Research Library*, named after the museum's illustrious founder who died in 1993. The first surprise was the sheer size of the facility, occupying as it does several rooms all containing books devoted to buildings, building conservation and rural life. One room is a loan library comprising books that are available to be borrowed by museum volunteers, staff, and MSc course students, but the others are set aside for reference only. The collection ranges from ancient reference works (I spotted Nicholson's seminal *Carpentry and Joinery* of 1791) to the latest journals from learned societies. It also has a growing collection of books on these subjects from mainland Europe. The museum runs MSc courses in building conservation and the students have their own study room to this end, but members of the public can access the W&DM library for private study by prior arrangement. This is an important source for researchers which should not be overlooked.

## Envoi

This really was a superb afternoon. Now I have to confess a certain penchant for both architectural history and collecting 'things', and so for me it was all pure delight, but, regardless of individual levels of obsession, all greatly appreciated the tours which were made even more memorable by the boundless enthusiasm shewn by our guides, and to our own Carol Brinson must go our sincere thanks for organising the visit.

Alan Green

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## Sussex Record Society: The Sussex Bibliography

The Sussex Record Society was set up in 1901 to publish historical records of the county found in archives, libraries and heritage organisations across the country. To date the Society has published over 100 books and has now added digital editions to its output, which are free to download from the website. Many of you will already be familiar with these volumes, but if you need any further persuasion do take a look at Alexandra Harris's recommendations in the SRS occasional notes series (<https://www.sussexrecordsociety.org/id-press-these-volumes-into-anyones-hands/>).

Alongside this prodigious and impressive publication work the SRS has compiled the Sussex Bibliography, an online resource that brings together an index of over 24,000 books and articles. Originally created by the then webmaster Peter Macleod, it was launched in 2017. Roger Pearce subsequently took over the work of webmaster, and in 2021 he devised a more straightforward method of adding periodical data to the Bibliography using an Excel spreadsheet.

The original Bibliography aimed to create a complete resource of relevant publications, but in the intervening years online catalogues and bibliographies have become increasingly available with the coverage of the likes of Google and Amazon becoming much more comprehensive. As a result for the last seven years the Bibliography has focussed on adding sources which are not indexed or catalogued elsewhere, in particular the contents of relevant local and specialist journals. Many of these latter publications contain excellent articles and fascinating examples of research which deserve to be much more widely known and accessed.

Since 2018 Martin Hayes, SRS Council member and former West Sussex Local Studies Librarian, has been managing a small but dedicated team of volunteers who have been indexing the Sussex content in a range of local and national periodicals. These include the *Downland [previously Peacehaven] Post* 1921-1926, *East Grinstead Bulletin*, *Lewes History Group Bulletin* and *Midhurst Magazine* and a full list is given below. But there are some omissions, for example the *Petworth Society Magazine* has not been indexed as there is already an existing searchable version online at [Magazine Archive - The Petworth Society](#).

Currently the team is working on *Chichester History* and are keen to welcome additional volunteers to help index the articles from this excellent publication. Martin is also looking to expand the coverage and include local periodicals for the Bognor Regis, Ferring, Horsham and Selsey areas. He would also welcome suggestions from West Sussex Archives Society members and anyone who has access to a back run of periodicals.

The Sussex Bibliography can be found at <https://www.sussexrecordsociety.org/srs-bibliography-introduction/>

#### Periodicals indexed in Sussex Bibliography (to April 2025)

##### Sussex

*Chichester History* [incomplete, indexing ongoing]  
*Cinque Ports Gazette* (Royal Sussex Regiment journal; 1916, 1930-38)  
*Downland Post* (1924-1926)  
*Downland* (1926-1928)  
*East Grinstead Society Bulletin*  
*Hastings Area Archaeological Research Group*  
*Lewes History Group Bulletin* [online, monthly]  
*Midhurst Magazine*  
*Newhaven Times*  
*Peacehaven Post* (1921-1923)  
*Sussex Archaeological Collections*  
*Sussex County Magazine*  
*Sussex Note & Queries*  
*Sussex Past & Present*  
*Sussex Archaeological Society Newsletter*  
*Sussex Industrial History*  
*Sussex Family Historian*  
*Sussex Genealogist and Family Historian*  
*Wealden Iron Research Group*  
*West Sussex History*

## National

*Archaeologia; or Miscellaneous Tracts relating to Antiquity*  
*Archaeological Journal*  
*Architectural History* (journal of Society of Architectural Historians)  
*Britannia, A Journal of Romano-British and Kindred Studies*  
*British Medical Journal*  
*Country Life*  
*Economic History Review*  
*English Historical Review*  
*Folklore Society*  
*Garden History* (Gardens Trust journal)  
*Geography* (journal of the Geographical Association)  
*Geographical Journal*  
*Geological Magazine*  
*Georgian Group Journal*  
*Gentleman's Magazine*  
*History Today*  
*International Journal for the History of Engineering and Technology*  
*Journal of The Geological Society*  
*Journal of the History of Education Society*  
*Journal of Historical Geography*  
*Journal of Medical Biography*  
*Journal of Meteorology*  
*Journal of Quaternary Science*  
*Journal of the Royal Meteorological Society*  
*Journal of the Royal Numismatic Society*  
*The Lancet*  
*Landscape History* (Society for Landscape Studies journal)  
*Landscape Research Group Journal*  
*Oxford Journal of Archaeology*  
*Proceedings of the Geologists' Association*  
*Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society*  
*Railway Magazine*  
*Reliquary and Illustrated Archaeologist*  
*Royal Society of London Transactions*  
*Society for Post-Medieval Archaeology*  
*Tertiary Research*  
*Vernacular Architecture*  
*Water and Environment Journal*

Martin Hayes and Wendy Walker

## Notices

### A quicker way to book WSAS events

As an alternative to posting a cheque and the booking forms printed in The Researcher (see p15), it can be more convenient to book and pay by bank transfer to:

West Sussex Archives Society, account no. 10942073, sort code 20-20-62

When using this method it is essential to email [contact@wsas.co.uk](mailto:contact@wsas.co.uk) to let us know that you have made the transfer, specifying the event/s being booked and naming those attending.

### WSAS events in 2026

An outline programme of events for next year will be published in the next issue.

### WSRO blog

Just in case any member is not aware of it, the blog on the Record Office's website is a delight. A wide range of subjects from the archive are covered, written by staff members and always interestingly illustrated. New articles are regularly published. It so happens that a piece about the history of Gatwick airport has been added recently (see the WSAS visit to the museum there on 22 October). Visit [westsussexrecordofficeblog.com](http://westsussexrecordofficeblog.com)

### WSRO events: discount code for WSAS members

For WSAS members a discount of £1 on WSRO events (see page 13) is available. The discount code has been sent to our members who use e-mail, and should be quoted when booking WSRO events on-line via the new WSRO website. Note that the code is changed from time to time. WSRO events can still be booked in person at the reception or over the telephone.

### WSAS committee

Carol Brinson  
Kim Fleming  
Dr John Godfrey  
Richard Howell, chairman  
Mike Kipling  
Leigh Lawson, secretary

Annette Lloyd Thomas  
Jane Mant, treasurer, membership secretary  
Susan Millard  
Wendy Walker, county archivist  
Helen Whittle, journal editor

All are contactable at: [contact@wsas.co.uk](mailto:contact@wsas.co.uk) Further Society information is on the website: [www.wsas.co.uk](http://www.wsas.co.uk) and on the WSAS Facebook and Instagram sites.

Registered Charity no 266997.



# Forthcoming events at the Record Office

## Evening talks

WSAS members are invited to the Record Office's series of evening talks, starting at 7pm.

### 30 September 2025: County Hall and its architect

Tim Hudson will be giving a talk on the history of County Hall, Chichester, built in the 1930s, and other work by County Architect C G Stillman. We hope you'll join us, either in person (advance booking essential) or online.

## Book launch

### 8 September 2025: 'The Jewish Pedlar: An Untold Criminal History'

Join us at the Record Office on Monday 8 September at 2.30pm to hear Professor Tony Kushner of the University of Southampton speak about his investigation into Jacob Harris who slit the throats of three people in a pub in West Hoathly in 1734. There will also be the opportunity to view original documents relating to West Hoathly, the scene of the crime. Advance booking essential.

## Workshops for family and local history

If you are new to family and local history, or want to find out more about the sources available and how best to use them, you may be interested in the Record Office "coffee time" workshops. They start at 10am and cover a wide range of sources. The remaining programme for 2025 is as follows.

3 September 2025      Getting started with Ancestry.co.uk

1 October 2025      Researching the history of your house **\*SOLD OUT\***

**\*\*\* Please book and pay on [wsro.org.uk/events](https://wsro.org.uk/events) \*\*\***

**\*\* Discount for WSAS members; quote the discount code supplied to all members**

## WSAS Events

The following three events are now ready for booking.

### Chichester in the Late Seventeenth Century, the WSAS annual conference

Saturday 27 September 2025, registration from 11.15am, in the Jubilee Hall at New Park Centre, New Park Road, Chichester PO19 7XY; SU864049

The presentations will be:

Post Civil War recovery of Chichester cathedral and city by Dr Andrew Foster

Protestant nonconformity in Restoration Chichester by Dr Danae Tankard

Continuity and change as revealed in Chichester wills by Dr James McInnes

Some demographic puzzles by Professor Philip Robinson

These will be followed by a panel reporting on current research and work on the Chichester consistory court depositions; inns and taverns; quarter sessions projects; and cathedral library projects. Refreshments will be provided, but not lunch.

WSAS members £20; non members £25.

### Visit to Gatwick Aviation Museum

Wednesday 22 October 2025 at 2pm at the museum, Lowfield Heath Road, Charlwood, Surrey RH6 0BT; TQ248407

This private guided tour of the museum, set in 30 acres of parkland on the edge of Gatwick Airport, will give access to the collection of vintage aircraft and engines from the Golden Age of British manufacture. A history room displays the history of the airport and of airlines, and a variety of memorabilia and models will be shown. Refreshments are not included, though drinks, crisps and chocolate bars may be purchased.

WSAS members £12; non members £14

### History and archive of Steyning Grammar School

Saturday 15 November 2025 at 2pm at Chatfields, Church Street, Steyning BN44 3YB; TQ177112

Brotherhood Hall, the home of a religious order before Dissolution, was from 1614 until 2022 the grammar school. In the adjacent Chatfields John Burstow will give a talk about the history of the school and its archive, a rarity amongst state schools. There will be a display and historical documents to inspect. Refreshments and cake will be provided. Maximum of 30 attenders.

WSAS members £5; non members £7

## Booking for WSAS events

Please book and pay either by e-mail and bank transfer (see page 12) or by returning the booking forms with your cheque to: WSAS, % West Sussex Record Office, County Hall, Chichester, West Sussex PO19 1RN.

We do not issue tickets or receipts for bookings. For queries please contact: [contact@wsas.co.uk](mailto:contact@wsas.co.uk)  
Event details are also at [www.wsas.co.uk](http://www.wsas.co.uk) and on the WSAS Facebook page.

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### Chichester in the Late Seventeenth Century, 27 September 2025, Chichester

WSAS members £20; non members £25

Names of members attending \_\_\_\_\_

Tel no or e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Names of non members attending \_\_\_\_\_

Tel no or e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

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### Visit to Gatwick Aviation Museum, 22 October 2025, Gatwick

WSAS members £12; non members £14

Names of members attending \_\_\_\_\_

Tel no or e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Names of non members attending \_\_\_\_\_

Tel no or e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

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### History and archive of Steyning Grammar School, 15 November 2025, Steyning

WSAS members £5; non members £7

Names of members attending \_\_\_\_\_

Tel no or e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Names of non members attending \_\_\_\_\_

Tel no or e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_



Shovels, spades and many other tools (left) in a section of the Artefacts Store at the Weald & Downland Living Museum, Singleton, June 2025

Photograph by Leigh Lawson

“Et in Arcadia, ego” (below), a view south through a window of the library at the Weald & Downland Living Museum, Singleton, June 2025

Photograph by Alan Green

