



TADS forthcoming meetings and other events

Aug 9th - TADS visit to Silchester Dig. Meet 6.30pm car park for 7pm tour
 Sep 21st - Turnstiles and Milestones - Alan Rosevear
 Oct 19th - "2001 census, Hampshire Trends" - Robin Edwards
 Nov 16th - "A policeman's lot...." - Caroline Edwards, HRO
 Dec 21st - AGM and Christmas social evening

TADS Visits

The annual TADS outing to the New Forest etc is **Saturday 24 September**
 Deposit of £10 per person at the next Wednesday's meeting so that coach
 can be reserved. Cost at present approx. £15 but if more people come then
 cost can be reduced. So lets make it a **Special Day** - bring your friends
 even "outlaws" and children welcome - we still have seats remaining.

It has been suggested that TADS arrange a visit to **Houses of Parliament** -
 are you interested? Names to Bob Bysouth. No date as yet for obvious
 reasons.

Last month's meeting - "Enclosures" by Mr O Jenks 15th June 2005

If there's anything one learns from history it is that WE never learn. We
 never change and life in the Good Old Days wasn't nearly as good as it was
 cracked up to be.

There always seems to have been oppression, taxes, a community charge in
 the 17th century and the richer telling the poorer what to do. The Monarch
 and the Lord of the Manor had their tabs on everyone, from the baron down
 to the outlaw, with freemen (or the East Anglian term for it, Socmen),
 villeins, cottars and serfs as 'piggies in the middle', in between.

The Lord of the Manor controlled the meadows, downland, woods, turbarry
 (gravel and fuel), piscary (fish, rivers and ponds) grazing, pannage (pig
 feeding from acorns etc.), ploughs, gleaming and gathering

Our English Common land (such as the SSSI, we have now on Tadley
 Common) is rarer and rarer and more encroached on than ever before. We
 must still fight tooth and nail to keep Tadley Common. Maybe we have
 Tadley Common because of its poor soil!

Gravelly Common land, where thorns, bracken and gorse grow, is bottom
 of the heap regarding fertility- coming after rich lowland, woods, pastures
 and downland. However in the 21st Century, Black Diamonds or hoggin,
 i.e. gravel is obviously very much in demand.

The Medieval Lord or serf would recognise some of our 21st Century
 laws:- no trespassing, (although we now have some right-to-roam areas);

Tadley and District History Society (TADS)

The next meeting for 2005 will be on

Wednesday July 20th

Meet at St. Paul's Church Hall, Tadley - 8.00 to 9.30 pm

"The Coroner's Office Service"

a talk by

Mr Dave Richards

Basingstoke Coroner's Officer

(also inside: last month's meeting

"Enclosures"

Mr O Jenks)

(Everybody welcome - Visitors £1.50)

*Comments and queries, suggestions to Rob Brown - Tadley (0118) 981 6109,
 Derek Ward - Tadley (0118) 981 2626or-mail DGWard@Bigfoot.com*

strict game laws; Allotments for the Labouring Poor; and the village recreation areas, for example where we now have Dexter cattle grazing,

Mr Jenks said if you go to a part of Devon you can see farm land where in 1841 the Bassett family had many strip holdings. The strip farming was on an enormous field, which now supports 5 farmers. The dividing lines between each farmer's strips were known as 'baulks'. Naturally good, medium and poor land was shared out and some land was left fallow. A sort of set-aside!

The poor have often had a rough deal. Even in the 8th, 9th and 10th centuries the land was reorganised by the lord of the Manor. In the 16th century Henry VIII's problems caused ructions for the poor, and the parish was responsible for poor you --- if you were from that particular parish and were not an itinerant person. The 'small print' of the time excluded many needy people!

In good farming practice of the 17th century the cattle had to have levant (rising) room and couchant (lying down) room.

After medieval times, roughly between 1750 and 1820, the strip farms were replaced by farms such as we recognise today.

However, what with the English population doubling, better farming technology (which brought the Swing Riots, including some in Hampshire), rent increases, social isolation, unemployment, high prices, envy and greed etc., life wasn't easy.

Sometimes womenfolk took the law into their own hands and MADE millers and farmers charge reasonable prices for the starving people. A bad harvest was known as a 'dearth' harvest. White bread was expensive at that time because the browner bread didn't do your stomach much good! So the consolidation of strips of land into blocks of land, linked together and surrounded by hedges, fences or gates, took lots of getting used to. As in the 21st century the populous isn't always consulted and the Enclosures were effected privately, by Courts of Equity, or by Act of Parliament. It seems we don't take kindly to change.

50 or so T.A.D.S.' members listened intently to Mr Jenks' erudite talk on Enclosures and the social, economic and technological changes wrought by this Act Thank you, Mr Jenks. Rosemary Bond.

Walking for Health

The next walks will on September 2nd continuing on the first Friday of each month. Meet at St Paul's 1.30pm duration about 1 hour.

Jane Austen Fayre

August 20/21 11am till 4.30pm at the Walled Garden, Down Grange, Pack Lane, Basingstoke. Admission is FREE for visitors in Regency costume.

We still need a TADS Programme Organiser. To take over from Bob Brown who has done this job for the last 20 years or so.

Your last chance to visit the Mikron (Waterways) Theatre this season

"Wheel of Fortune" on Sunday July 17th at 7.30pm Fox and Hounds Fleet. (All about the history of the Edinburgh to Glasgow Canal from its construction to the "Falkland Wheel". Several TADS members attended this performance at The Rowbarge and said it was terrific especially the songs.

Tadley British Legion are hosting **V J Celebrations on 13th August** at the Tadley Memorial Hall on the Green. It is hoped that TADS will have a display at this event. If you have any WW2 memorabilia please let Bob Brown or Carol Stevens know.

History in the making

Christchurch Tadley Launch Weekend June 18th/19th 2005.

This occasion went with a swing with lots of stalls, sports and games at Tadley Common Methodist Church on the Saturday. On the Sunday there was a Commemorative Church Service at St Mary's Church followed by a lunch. Bob Brown, our chairman, was an invited guest representing TADS.

Tadley Charity shop sponsored by "Annie's Charity, opened in Hanby's old shop Franklin Avenue, July 8th. Derek and Bob attended the official opening

Ruth Ellis, My Sister's Secret Life by Muriel Jakubait and Monica Wellar was released on June 30th. TADS through Derek supplied some historical information to Monica and has been mentioned in the acknowledgements.

TADS Archive Storage has been arranged on a rental basis in the form of a large cupboard in the Community Centre.

Heritage Weekend 8th to 11th September 2005.

Locally only 9th to 11th at St Mary's Slichester, Pamber Priory and St Andrews, Sherborne St John. Sponsored cycle ride/walk day is Sat 10th.

Community Furniture Project, Basingstoke 01256-320700

Surplus quality used furniture is required, especially fridges, cookers and washing machines. Free collection. See www.cfbbasingstoke.org