

REPTON VILLAGE SOCIETY

REGISTERED CHARITY No.1017835



FEBRUARY 2015 NEWSLETTER.

The Annual General Meeting will follow the Talk at the March 5th meeting and members are reminded that nominations for the election of Officers and Committee members must be made in writing to the Secretary at least 14 days before. Such nominations shall be supported by a seconder and the consent of the proposed nominee must first have been obtained.

The annual subscription has remained at £3 single and £6 household for many years now and is due on January 1st. Just a gentle reminder!

A letter written on behalf of St Wystan's Church has been received thanking all those members who volunteered to help with stewarding and catering for the Saxon Hoard exhibition.

The Society continues to object to the applications to build houses on land between the village and Milton on the grounds of traffic congestion, lack of amenities and sprawl that will eventually result in the merging of the two settlements. We have also objected to the latest plans for the Longlands development on the grounds of a reduction in the play area, removal of public art and timber play area and a new implied linkage to future development.

Future Programme.

Thursday March 5th. "Cook's Tours – the story of Thomas Cook and Son" with Danny Wells. Thomas Cook was born eight years into the 19th century and died eight years before the end of the century. When he was born in 1808 the words 'tourism' and 'sightseeing' were unknown yet by the time of his death in 1892, both he and his son had played key roles in opening up the world to popular tourism. The father was strong in temperance reform and was the more idealistic whereas the son had greater business acumen and organisational skills. They operated in a dynamic and turbulent age and the relationship between father and son was not exactly plain sailing either. The AGM (see note above) and cheese and wine will follow.

Thursday April 9th (2nd Thursday). "South Derbyshire the Earth our Wealth" with Tony Hurrell –Chairman of Sharpe's Pottery Trust. South Derbyshire has always had riches in its "soil" and in this talk Tony travels through the rich local heritage of how that "soil" has been exploited, leaving a scarred landscape but also a Public Health legacy that stretches across continents. From Pits, Pots and Pipes right through to the prospering National Forest South Derbyshire has a proud story to tell.

P.T.O.

Wednesday April 15th. Following this talk a tour of Sharpe's Pottery in Swadlincote has been arranged with Tony as our guide starting at 2p.m. There will be a nominal charge of 50p to cover tea/coffee collected on the day. Please advise if you intend to come. There is car parking around the pottery but if you need directions please let me know, similarly if you would like a lift arranged.

Saturday May 9th. 2015 marks the 800th anniversary of the sealing of the Magna Carta by King John at Runnymede near Windsor. The coach leaves the church at 8.30a.m for Windsor where those who wish to see the town, the Castle or take a river trip can be dropped off before moving on to the world famous Savill Garden in Windsor Great Park. The garden looks superb all year round but is particularly spectacular in Spring with displays of azaleas and rhododendrons. There is of course a good restaurant, coffee bar and shop selling gifts etc and plants grown in the Royal Nurseries. The coach will leave at about 3.30p.m picking up those who stayed in Windsor on the way to Runnymede (free entry) where there will be time to see the Magna Carta site and other memorials before leaving at 5p.m. arriving back in Repton at approx. 8p.m. There is a small tearoom and toilets at the site. The cost for the coach and Garden will be £28 for members £30 for visitors. Windsor Castle can be busy at times and it would be best for individuals to book beforehand to avoid delays. (£19.20 or concessions: £17.50). The coach only cost will be £20 for members, £22 for visitors. **Gardeners N.B.** In addition to the normal plant sales mentioned above, when we visit there will also be a plant fair in the car park. There is always plenty of storage room on Skills coaches!

Thursday May 14th (note date –there is some sort of election on 7th and the hall will be in use as a Polling Station). “The Life of Chinese Wilson – one of the great plant hunters of the late 19th century” with Simon Gulliver who came to the Society last year for “Around the world in 80 Plants.” He writes “It is the story of his life from humble beginnings as a railway signalman's son to world famous plant hunter and botanist, honorary doctorate and Director of the Arnold Arboretum – Harvard University. It is full of pathos, self-improvement, near death in landslides, up the Mekong River, over the Himalayas and more.”

Addition to the programme. Saturday May 23rd. We have been most fortunate to have been given the opportunity to hold another Jazz Concert in Pears School in support of the Village Hall Appeal. “Barbara Taylor and All That Jazz” will again be playing and it will be a “bring your own food drink and glasses” evening starting at 7.30p.m. Tickets: £10. Repton School have once again made this splendid building available to us free of charge and we hope to equal, if not better, the £2010 that we raised in 2013.

If you'd like to have your newsletter by email we can easily arrange it. It's the quickest, most economic and environmentally friendly way to receive the information. Just send a message to rvssec@yahoo.co.uk and you will have your copy as soon as it is written. The majority of our members use this system now.

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