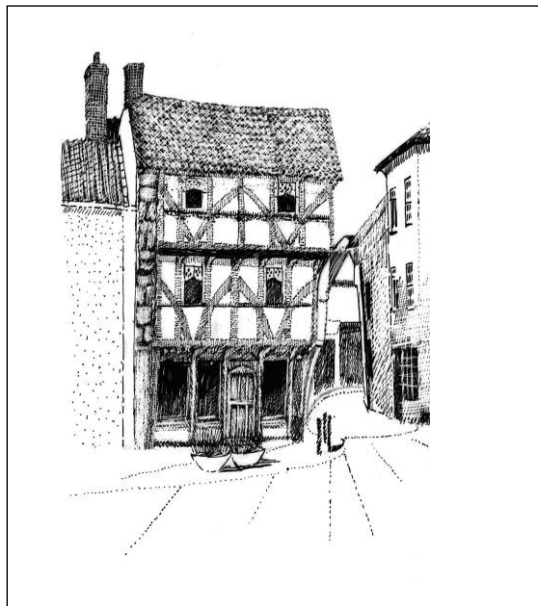


Retrospect

Issue No 9, January 2024

Newsletter of the Friends of King John's Hunting Lodge

News, views and events



We can be nothing without you, our Friends and members of the former Axbridge Archaeological and Local History Society. We want to hear your views, comments, and suggestions for the future – and importantly, articles are always welcome for inclusion in *Retrospect*. Send your ideas to Liz by email at moorlandfm@btinternet.com and contributions to editor Ian Tabrett at tabrett.cross@btinternet.com

Time to have fun, fun to have time.



Wednesday February 21: Talk by John Page.

King John's Hunting Lodge, 2pm, The Hunting Lodge at 2pm followed by a visit to the Council Chamber in the Town Hall. This is a subsidised event free to all Friends and will be especially of interest to those who are thinking of being or are stewards of the Museum. After refreshments there will be an informal chat about the progress of the Friends, and future plans.

John writes: In 2023 our museum acquired grants from the local Parochial Charities, the Arts Council and the ACE/V&A to purchase the grandfather clocks which were on loan to the museum for many years. I will discuss these as well as those at Axbridge Town Hall, clock-making in Axbridge, and how time has been measured through the millenia.

But before that...

Thursday February 15: Ice Age mammals on Mendip: caves to conservation.

Talk by Professor Danielle Schreve, who will also detail recent excavations at Ebbor Gorge. This is the annual Barry Lane memorial lecture: he was an archaeologist and for many years secretary of the Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society. **We have been invited to join the Westbury Society at Westbury Village Hall, 7.30pm. Fee £2.50.** Parking is limited so we are hiring the Frankie Howerd OBE Trust minibus. Cost to Friends will be £4 each and suggested pick-ups are: Cross Memorial Hall, 6.30 pm; Axbridge Square/Cheddar Road, 6.45 pm ; Cheddar, 7pm. **Please let Liz know by email as above by Tuesday 13 February if you would like to be picked, and where.**

Your diary dates for the rest of 2024...

**March 20: *China Comes to Wells.* Talk by Oliver Kent on Roman pottery finds.
Cross Memorial Hall, 2pm; non-members £5, refreshments £2**

**April 17: *The Matthew*, the replica of Cabot's ship. Talk by Clive Burlton
Cross Memorial Hall, 7pm; non-members £5, refreshments £2**

**May 15: Axbridge Church and its hidden treasures, with Stephanie Gall.
Meet at the Church steps, 2pm. For those needing easy and flat access to the church, car parking can be found in Chestnut Avenue. Donations to the church fund**

**June 19: Christon Church's recently-found wall painting and hidden garden, with Mary Counsel.
Meet at the Church, 2.30pm; parking nearby is limited so car-sharing is advised
*Donation to the Church please***

**July 17: Sandford Station Heritage Centre; 2.30pm, guided tour with Lois Brenchley as a follow-up to our successful talk on the Strawberry Line.
Further details to be confirmed.**

August: No meeting

**September 18: The Churches of Weston-super-Mare, with John Crockford Hawley
Cross Memorial Hall, 7pm; non-members £5, refreshments £2**

October 18: share with stewards of Axbridge and District Museum Trust a visit to a National Trust property or a social meeting with talk. **Details later.**

**November 20: Somerset Fingerposts, Signposts, Milestones and Tollhouses.
Talk by Richard Raynesford, of the Milestone Society, with introduction by Janet Dowding, author of *The Toll Houses of Somerset*.
Cross Memorial Hall, 2pm; non-members £5, refreshments £2**

December: Christmas social meal and quiz

Remember you can keep up to date with developments at King John's Hunting Lodge Museum through the website <https://kingjohnshuntinglodge.co.uk> then click on Newsletters

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Looking back at the Allertons...



A new exhibition by the Allerton Historical Society presents photographs documenting everyday life in the Allerton villages from 1850 to 1950 - a time of both change and constancy. The images include farming and rural trades, pubs and recreation, church and school, the upheaval of wartime, and events like the Winter family's outing (above). The exhibition is being launched with a presentation evening at Ad Astra Cider, Stone Allerton, on **Friday 8 March** before it opens the next day at Stone Allerton Old Schoolroom. From **29 March** to **31 May** it moves to King John's Hunting Lodge.



...and to Christmas 2023

An enjoyable Christmas social was held at the Lamb Inn, Weare, where 17 Friends of King John's Hunting Lodge enjoyed an excellent three-course meal. The evening was rounded off with a quiz compiled by David Roberts, who also acted as quizmaster. The joint winners were Sue Tabrett and Roger Veale. The Axbridge and District Museum Trust also hosted an informal get-together, this time at the Lamb, Axbridge. Trustees, Trust officers, museum stewards and Friends

enjoyed coffee and mince pies while hearing the plans for the coming season.