



Autumn 2021 No. 46

We ARE Back for Real!

If nothing else over lockdown, our technical knowledge and skills have shown improvement. The invaluable forms of communication via the internet have helped to keep us feeling we are all part of the community. 'Community' has also widened for many of us – not least our talks topics and the speakers who have welcomed it as a platform.

Do also take a look at our much-improved website www.dlhq.org.uk

Prior to our first real talk I was pleased to join some of you on Robin Daly's Lonesome Lodge Walk. What a lovely afternoon that was – even the weather supported Robin. After a great walk, the participants were welcomed back for tea and cakes to meet with the other authors of the book as well. The walk was held to support the Dorking Museum and Yes to Life charities. Welcome back a real Heritage week too – theme: Edible History. Member Jessica Thurtell organised a great event in Dorking Halls - Dining with History. Check your manners folks! What better theme for a town famous for its unique cockerels.



There was, however, a dearth of references to Dorking's famous cherries, walnuts, saffron.....

Continue take care of yourselves and your loved ones.

Gwen Wood – Chairman

Relaunch of the Mayflower 400 Celebrations

After all the hard work that went towards preparing for this event in 2020, it's great to know that none of it has gone to waste. Look out for the lovely mini-boats around the town, made by

Dorking Men's Shed – one for each of the six Dorking passengers. They have also been making a large scaled cross-section of the Mayflower, which can be seen in the museum. Last year's planned temporary exhibition is open from 9th September 2021 to February 2022.

DARKING 1620

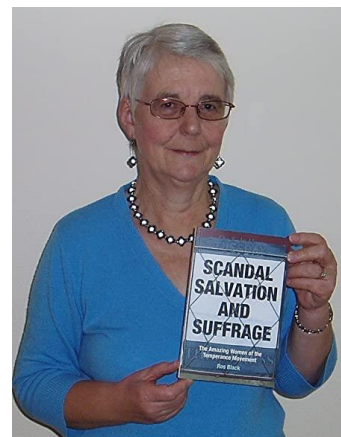


Introducing Ros Black

We will be welcoming Ros Black back next year, this time for a talk on the Temperance Women.

Here she is in her words:

Having taken early retirement from running a special needs housing and care charity and with 2 daughters having flown the nest, I finally had time to indulge my hobbies of history and writing. Living in Reigate, I discovered on my doorstep a fascinating story – that of Lady Henry Somerset, a Victorian temperance reformer and true humanitarian. My fascination with amazing women whose work has largely been forgotten had begun.



I wrote a biography Lady Somerset, reawakening interest in her, especially in Reigate. The story of Duxhurst, her 'farm colony for inebriate women' just a few miles south of Reigate also caught the imagination and I found I was asked to give talks to many local groups on these subjects. The story led me to uncover stories of her contemporaries especially temperance workers – an unusual subject for someone who likes the occasional glass of wine, I admit!

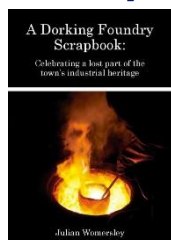
When I moved to Haywards Heath, almost 10 years ago, I pursued another Lady Henry link to Grace Kimmins who had established Chailey Heritage for disabled children in 1903. Lady Somerset and many members of her family had been Patrons to Grace's work. Chailey Heritage Foundation continues this work today and I am proud to support this through sales of my book *Grace Kimmins & her Chailey Heritage* and talk fees.

I enjoy sharing the results of my research, and my enthusiasm for the stories I have uncovered. I am also delighted at how willing people are to share their own recollections or memorabilia with me. I may have written books, but I've come to realise that the stories are never actually finished – there is always more to discover.

We look forward to hearing her talk - Scandal, Salvation and Suffrage - next May.

All of Ros' books are available at
www.rosblackcreative.com

A Dorking Foundry Scrapbook



A new book by **Julian Womersley** celebrating a lost part of the town's industrial heritage.

'The iron industry of Dorking is probably older than its agriculture...'

Available at Dorking Museum, and other book shops for £5.50

Or online from Dorking Museum website

And a more familiar speaker: **Sam Dawson**

Sam has also contributed to our Dorking History editions with his research on various aspects of underground Dorking – all of which then evolved into a really great book: Underground Dorking. In his own words he was –

Born in Ladbroke Grove, West London, spent part of my childhood in Fetcham, visited many friends in Dorking over many years. Earn a living as a journalist and in my spare time write fiction and do some illustration. I also like films, photography, to read, to walk, to explore mysterious underground spaces, dig up old bottles and carry out the other fascinating explorations that life offers.

There is nothing quite like discovering and entering an underground space that was built or used or inhabited or sheltered in by people in the past. Just before lockdown, thanks to the efforts of a small group of fellow speleologists working

with the Friends of Deepdene, we were able to uncover and chart a number of forgotten chambers that once supplied water to the majestic Deepdene House.



Sam's book, Underground Dorking, can be bought directly or on line from Dorking Museum

Autumn Programme

The programme for the next six months is enclosed with this mailing.

We will continue with 'real' talks each first Monday, but we are also going to offer a talk via ZOOM every mid-month Monday. This will be a pilot for us to inform future planning. Members will receive emails with any programme changes, 'extra' talks and zoom links for the talks. Remember to register for each ZOOM talk you wish to 'attend'.

We will welcome any comments, suggestions, or links to any speakers that you feel would make an interesting evening. Contact Garry via 07751 468948 or garrypaulbrooks@gmail.com

Membership

We welcome the following new members:

Caroline Lazenby	Mandy Richmond
David Freeman	Richard Shenton
Yvonne Campbell	Michael Waller
Peter Curtiss	Helen Wilson
Sheila Knight	Jean Ward
Janet McLeavy	Jan & Lyn Spencer
Laurel Mollan	Chris & Maggi Power
Celia Perry	

We learn with sadness of the demise of member:

Shirley Loryman-Neighbour

To contact DLHG: email:

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or www.dlhg.org.uk

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