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Hythe Civic Society NEWSLETTER

No. 226 Winter 2022/2023



TALKS PROGRAMME 2022-23

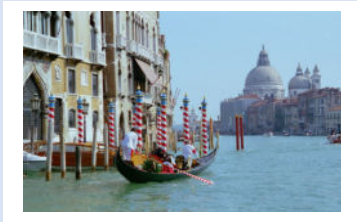
Talks are held on the second Tuesday of the month, from September to June (excluding December) at Hythe Bay Church of England Primary School, Cinque Ports Avenue, Hythe, CT216HS
Doors open at 6.45 pm for a 7.30 pm start
Members £2, non-members £4.

Visitors always welcome.

PLEASE KEEP AN EYE ON OUR WEBSITE OR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR ANY CHANGES

10 JANUARY

WENDY FRASER: A Visit to Venice



14 FEBRUARY

IMOGEN CORRIGAN: Joan of Arc



14 MARCH

ANDREW ASHTON: The Art of Forgery



CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

Friday 2nd Dec 2022 @ 7 pm
The Sports Pavilion, South Road

Members and friends welcome.
Mulled wine/coffee, mince pies,
a quiz and a raffle

A chance to meet other members
and get the festive season started.



PLANNING

A Pause to the Princes Parade Development

District Council Leader, Cllr David Monk, as the responsible cabinet member for the project, took a decision on 1 November to pause current spending on the scheme and to assess the options available moving forward.

This prudent approach is being taken due to the current uncertainty in the financial and energy markets. It is unclear how long the pause will last.

Further information behind the decision can be found on the District's website at <https://bit.ly/3SZSL9D>

HISTORY MADE IN HYTHE

PROCLAMATION

Following the death of Queen Elizabeth II on 8 September 2022, her son Prince Charles was proclaimed King Charles III on 10 September. The photograph shows The Right Worshipful Mayor of Hythe, Councillor Jim Martin, proclaiming the accession of King Charles III to the throne, in a short ceremony at the Town Hall on 11 September. Major Dennis Bradley (Rtd) BEM DL was representing the Lieutenancy of Kent.



THE CONFEDERATION OF CINQUE PORTS COMES TO HYTHE

The Confederation is a unique association of towns and villages in Kent and East Sussex, dating back 1000 years. The Speaker acts as chairman and the office is held by the Mayor of each of the head ports and two ancient towns. It passes from one town to the next each year by a process quaintly described as "septennial revolution". This year the honour has come to Hythe, and The Right Worshipful Mayor of Hythe, Councillor Jim Martin, has taken up the role of Speaker. The major event of the year is Speaker's Day. All the Cinque Ports Mayors, and various dignitaries, joined together for the Civic Procession along the High Street to St Leonard's Church.



BAND OF THE GRENADIER GUARDS IN HYTHE HIGH STREET

On Friday 14 October the Band of the Grenadier Guards paraded down the High Street to the Town Hall where the band played for almost an hour to a big audience of all ages, including a large number of primary school children who enthusiastically joined in the singing and waving of Union flags. This event, and an evening concert at the Leas Cliff Hall, was organised by Major Denis Bradley (Rtd) BEM DL with the proceeds going to "The Colonel's Fund" and local charities.



CHRISTMAS EVENTS IN THE PARISH OF ST LEONARD

DECEMBER

Wednesday 14, 2.30pm: 'Come and sing your favourite carols' – St Leonard's Church

Thursday 15, 6.00pm: Christingle service – Holy Cross Church

Saturday 17, 12 noon: 'Churches Together' Nativity Tableau – Hythe Town Square

Saturday 17, 7.30pm: 'Carols for All' concert – St Leonard's Church

Sunday 18, 11.00am: Carol service – St Michael's Church

Tuesday 20, 2.00pm: Santa's Singing Workshop – St Leonard's Church

Christmas Eve, Saturday 24, 4.00pm: 'The Christmas Story' family service – St Leonard's Church

Christmas Eve, Saturday 24, 11.30pm: Midnight Mass – St Leonard's Church

Christmas Day, Sunday 25, 9.30am: Family Eucharist – St Leonard's Church

Christmas Day, Sunday 25, 11.00am: Morning worship – St Michaels Church

All are welcome to these services and other Christmas events. For further details visit the St Leonard's website at www.slhk.org.

ARCHIVE CORNER

MORE PLANTING FOR WINTER IN HYTHE



Tony and Daria Keeler planting up outside the Hythe Corner Shop. For further information contact: Sally Chesters (01303) 266118

With the summer of Platinum Jubilee themed floral displays behind us, Hythe in Bloom is delighted to provide new colourful planting for the winter all along the High Street. Thanks to the generosity of sponsors – Gopak, Waitrose, Lawrence Estate Agent, Charlier Construction and Hythe Town Council, all the High Street planters have been stripped out and colourful pansies and polyanthus have been planted. The work was carried out by a team of local volunteers keen to ensure that Hythe looks its colourful best throughout the year. Sally Chesters, organiser of Hythe in Bloom said: 'We have received so many compliments on the troughs in the High Street this summer and we really want to keep the colour going throughout the winter months. We are so grateful to all the volunteers who helped with the planting and also, of course, to our generous sponsors whom we could not do without'.

PAINTING THE TOWN BLUE



Brightening up the bollards outside the Town Hall was the idea of Jim Martin, Right Worshipful Mayor of Hythe. He planned to use his Mayoral allowance to cover the cost of materials. He asked the Civic Society if they would be willing, and able, to provide volunteers to do the job, and the Society of course said 'Yes!'. Work began in September and the pedestrian section of the High Street should be completed by the end of this month. However, not content with painting the nine bollards outside the Town Hall, the volunteers – and the Mayor - got carried away and now intend to paint everything that is painted blue along the whole length of the High Street. There are 108 bollards plus bins, posts and lamp posts, so it is some task....

The Civic Society is fortunate to have a collection of 32 oblique aerial photographs that reveal the changing face of Hythe. These photographs were taken by Aerofilms Ltd, the UK's first aerial photography company, founded in 1919 by Francis Willis (a former WW1 Royal Naval Air Service Observer) and Claude Graham White (a pioneer aviator).

From its roots in aviation and photography, Aerofilms became hugely successful over the next 80 years, but in 2007 the then owners sold the collection of over 1.2 million negatives and 2,000 albums to English Heritage. Following the purchase a digitisation project ensued that can be viewed on the 'Britain from Above' website (www.britainfromabove.org.uk).



The above 1940s photo is in response to HCS member Avril Wigham who contacted us to say she had seen a photo of a bandstand in the Grove. She wondered if it had been moved to Oaklands. The aerial shows that there were originally 2 bandstands in Hythe.

The Grove bandstand was built in the early 1920s and Oaklands in 1935. Sadly the Grove bandstand burnt down in the 1960s but below is a lovely picture of it in the 1950s, showing it on the canal bank.



At www.kentphotoarchive.org.uk you will find a link to the HCS Collection. With the invaluable work performed by the Kent Photo Archive and others, the Society now has approximately 4,000 digital images, with some more to follow. As part of the current work to redesign the Society's and the History Group's websites, a digital archive is planned over the coming months.

NB To read our HCS e-book go to www.hythecivicsociety.org

HCS VOLUNTEERS



Earlier this year, the Tuesday morning gardeners, led by Hythe Civic Society, replanted the Princess Diana Sensory Garden at Oaklands and were keen for the fence surrounding the garden to be brought back to life, having suffered much damage over the years.

Hythe Town Council sought quotations from several fencing contractors but the cost looked likely to be prohibitive. It was then that the Society stepped in and a volunteer, Nigel Chesters, and his colleague, Mike Boler, set about repairing the fence, providing a suitable backdrop for the newly-planted garden.

Hythe Town Council provided funding for the materials but, with no labour costs, the Council and Council Tax payers, were saved a considerable sum of money...and Nigel and Mike really enjoyed the work, so win, win!



Registered Charity No 283177

COMMITTEE

Chairman: Crispin Davies

Secretary: Mrs Mary Hunter
(01303 268423)

Treasurer & Membership:
Alan Joyce

Newsletter Editors: Jill Ayling and
Kim Murton

Newsletter Distribution:
Michael Tubman (01303 267373)

OBITUARY

Lord Michael Boyce 1943 – 2022



It is with great sadness that the Society has learnt of the passing of its Patron - Admiral of the Fleet Lord Michael Boyce. He passed away, aged 79, on Sunday 6 November after a long battle with cancer.

Lord Boyce had a distinguished naval career becoming Commander-in-Chief Fleet, Commander-in-Chief Eastern Atlantic Area and Commander Naval Forces North Western Europe in the late 1990s and First Sea Lord from 1998 to 2001. He was then appointed Chief of the Defence Staff becoming the First Sea Lord. He later became a crossbench peer in the House of Lords and was made an honorary Admiral of the Fleet in the Queen's Birthday Honours in 2014.

Admiral of the Fleet the Lord Boyce KG GCB OBE DL was appointed Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports in 2004. In that capacity he kindly accepted the position of Patron of Hythe Civic Society. The Society extends its condolences to Lord Boyce's family and friends.

HCS WEBSITE LAUNCH

We are pleased to announce the launch of our new look website. Go to www.hythecivicsociety.org to check it out. We hope to increase our membership, giving us a louder voice in matters that affect Hythe. Please tell your friends they can now join online.

HCS FACEBOOK PAGE

Hythe Civic Society also has a Facebook page where we share news about Hythe and the Society.