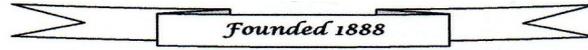




# Newsletter

of the

Great Yarmouth Local History & Archaeological Society



April, 2022

## GYLHAS 2022 AGM

Please note that the Society's 2018 AGM will take place on 20th May, 2022 starting at 7.30pm. The venue of the AGM will be Christchurch, Deneside, Great Yarmouth. The AGM will be preceded by a lecture given by Dorothy M Stewart, Author and Researcher, entitled 'The Scottish Herring Girls in Yarmouth in 1921' from research for her Book 'When the Boat Comes Home'. Please make every effort to attend this important meeting.

## Great Yarmouth's Community Dig



After a two-year enforced absence, on a bright March day, YHAC members old and new joined Cotswold Archaeology to dig two test pits close to the town's priory building. This community dig was funded by Historic England as part of an exploration of the Great Yarmouth Heritage Action Zone. Over 20 members and guests joined the dig with trowels and shovels to carefully scrape back layers of soil and sand within the grounds of the town's medieval priory. Once a home for Benedictine monks, the priory has had many uses over the

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years including as a school and more recently, as a community venue, so the group was not quite sure what to expect when they started excavating.

In Test Pit 1, at a depth of around 40cm, the group uncovered the intact remains of a Victorian drainage sump with the surrounding soil revealing clear evidence of its use over the years. The same test pit also revealed the broken remains of a decorative chimney capping which had been buried at a similar time. A replica of this stone can be seen on the capped chimney of the nearby vicarage. This left us to ponder whether the stone had fallen from a rooftop, maybe during the war-time raids, or whether it had been broken and discarded during construction.

In Test Pit 2 much to their surprise the group uncovered a damaged flint scraper and a piece of worked flint flake. These were typical Bronze Age tools from around 4,000 years ago, long before Great Yarmouth existed! Alas, YHAC hadn't discovered evidence of ground-breaking human habitation. As these tools were found in sandy soil close to the surface it is likely that they were deposited when sand was brought in from the surrounding villages to provide building materials. A good example of how context is crucial to archaeologists at all stages of the journey.



The Young History and Archaeology Club is looking forward to resuming its regular monthly meetings at the Time and Tide Museum from April.

*Patricia Day*

## Picture of Yarmouth wins national award



ALAN BALL AWARD



awards while the Local Studies Group supports people working in local studies librarianship. Of the 38 books submitted, the judges thought it was an excellent publication and it is a worthy winner. The full list of winners is below:

**Hard copy joint winner:** *The Picture of Yarmouth: 200 Years of Built Heritage*. Published by the Great Yarmouth Local History & Archaeological Society

**Hard copy joint winner:** Louise Ryland-Epton (ed) - *Bremhill Parish Through the Ages: The Heritage of a Wiltshire Community*. Published by the Bremhill Parish History Group

**Hard copy highly commended:** Lewis N Wood – *Banstead War Memorial: An Illustrated history (100 Years)*. Published by the Banstead History Research Group

**Hard copy highly commended:** Clare Wichbold – *Hard Glorious Work: Stories from the Herefordshire Suffrage Campaign* (self-published)

**Community award joint winner:** *A Community Remembers: Histon Road* (book with CD).

Published by the Histon road Residents Association

**Community award joint winner:** *Nunney Lane and Clementhorpe: Exploring old shops and pubs in York*.

Published by the Clements Hall Local History Group

**E-publication:** *South West Heritage Trails - Torbay Discovery Heritage Trail* [www.southwestheritagetrails.org.uk](http://www.southwestheritagetrails.org.uk) Published by South West Heritage Trust.

A small number of hardback editions are still available to members at the discounted rate of £10 (normal price £15) at society meetings. Copies are also available from the society website (full price only).

To accompany this book, an educational booklet has been designed to support local schools studying history at KS2 & 3. This can be downloaded for free by visiting the Society's website.

*Gareth Davies*

# Summer Outings

**Friday June 10<sup>th</sup> – Tour of St Benet’s Abbey, Ludham with a Heritage Guide at 7pm.** Please car share if possible as parking is limited and note that there is no shelter (or toilets). Please let me know if you intend coming on this visit.

**Tuesday July 12<sup>th</sup> – Sutton Hoo, the Woodbridge Tidal Mill and Long Shed (where a replica Anglo-Saxon boat is being constructed).** Sutton Hoo entrance is £14.75 for non-National Trust members. There is an optional guided tour of the dig site by a local support group at an additional cost of £4.50. The Tidal Mill entrance is £5.00 while the Long Shed visit is free, but donations will be welcome on the day.

Pick ups: Opposite Caister Police Station	8.30am
Barnard Crescent	8.40am
Market Gates (outside Poundstretcher)	8.45am
Gorleston Tramway	9.00am

We will depart from Woodbridge at 5pm.

Please complete this form and pay by cash or cheque (payable to GYLHAS) at a meeting or send to me – Ann Dunning, 132 Bells Road, Gorleston, Great Yarmouth NR31 6AF (phone: 01493 441878).

Name

Address

Phone No.

Nos. people for St Benets’

Day Trip

Coach fare(s) @ £15 per head

Sutton Hoo Entrance

Dig Tour

Tidal Mill

Total

**Ann Dunning**

## Mr Colin Kelly

Mr Colin Kelly of B.A.M. J.V. Farrens contacted me to apologize for not being able to give his presentation on ‘the Building of Great Yarmouth’s Third River Crossing’ at our meeting on January 21st but he was called away to Addenbrooke’s Hospital where his brother was dying. We send our condolences to Mr Kelly’s family.

Mr Kelly volunteered to give his talk to the Society but we have a full programme for 2022. However, I referred him to the Great Yarmouth branch of the University of the Third Age who I am led to believe that Mr Kelly’s talk will be held at Christchurch on Thursday 5th May at 2 p.m. I have not had this confirmed as yet.

**Andrew Fakes**

# GYLHAS Journal 2022

Contributions for this year's journal are very welcome and any submissions should be sent to [john@post2me.net](mailto:john@post2me.net) as soon as completed please. Members will recall that last year, 2021, all annual subscriptions were waived, although copies of the 2021 journal could be ordered for £10 each, which simply covered production costs. Whilst most members took up the offer, several regular subscribers did not unfortunately remember to order a copy, however it is not too late to do so if you would like to ensure your journal library is complete. Whilst there are currently only a couple of copies remaining in stock, the editor is able to order further copies of the 2021 issue from the printers if required. Please contact [john@post2me.net](mailto:john@post2me.net) if we can help in this way.

*John Smail*

## Mayor's general knowledge charity quiz

You will be delighted to hear that the society's team of Pat Ashbourne, John Smail, Kevin Mace, Stuart Burgess, Andrew Fakes and Paul Davies won the Mayor's general knowledge



charity quiz at the town hall. They scored 183 out of 200 beating the 20 other teams.

*Paul Davies*

## British Association for Local History Photography Competition

If you are a photographer, then you might be interested in entering this year's British Association for Local History Photography Competition. You do not need to be a member of

BALH to take part.

You may submit up to three recent photographs to the competition. Each will be treated as an individual entry. They are defining "recent" as photographs taken since the start of 2020, so covering the transformative period of the pandemic.

There are two categories to the competition, for both under and over 18s, and they're really keen to see photographs from younger local history enthusiasts. The prize is £150 for each category.

Remember, you have until 30th April 2022 to submit your entry. Submit here:

<https://www.balh.org.uk/resource-s-local-history-photographer-of-the-year-2022>. As part of your submission, they ask for a few words about "why" the subject means something to you. It can simply be that's somewhere that fascinates you, a place that's special from your family history, or there's an interesting story to tell.

*Gareth Davies*



*Admiral Duncan's Pump in Gorleston*