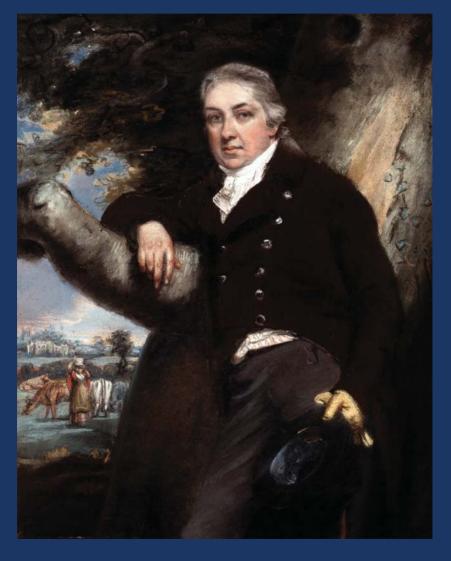
Oxfordshire FAMILY HISTORIAN



Volume 33, No 2

August 2019

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The Society's website can be found at: www.ofhs.org.uk

Front cover:

A painting of Edward Jenner (1749-1823) a Gloucestershire physician and scientist, the pioneer of the smallpox vaccine. Read the fascinating article inside on smallpox in Oxfordshire, specially written for this journal



Oxfordshire FAMILY HISTORIAN

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SOCIETY OBJECTIVES

- to advance public education in family history and genealogy primarily within the county of Oxford
- to collect, index, co-ordinate, publish and make accessible in the interests of family history and genealogy any documents or records relating to the county
- 3. to promote the preservation of such documents or records
- 4. to encourage the study of family history and genealogy
- 5. to assist educationally by lectures or otherwise in record research
- to co-operate with family history and other societies with similar interests.





Subscriptions are renewable annually on 1 January except that those joining during Oct, Nov, Dec have their membership carried forward through the following year.

Membership renewal forms are distributed with the December journal.

UK members: Individual £9.00, Family £10.00 **Overseas members** (incl. postage) £12.00

Cheques drawn in sterling and made out to Oxfordshire Family History Society should be sent to the Membership Secretary (see the Who's Who at the back of this Journal).

Australian members may pay via the Society's agent (member 2202)
Barbara Geeves, 5 Esperance Court, Mount Martha, Victoria 3934, Australia
Email: agent-au@ofhs.org.uk

Membership details are kept on computer and are used for Society activities only.

Contributions to Future Issues

The Oxfordshire Family Historian is published three times each year with cover dates of April, August and December. Items for consideration should be submitted to the Editor. The earlier an item is received, the greater the chance of inclusion in the next issue. The deadline for the December 2019 issue is 15 September 2019. Urgent and short items may be submitted up to 1 October 2019.

The Editor reserves the right to edit, abridge, reject, or defer to a future date, all material submitted for publication. It is the contributor's responsibility to ensure that material submitted does not breach copyright laws. Contributions remain the copyright of OFHS and the authors jointly. The observations and opinions expressed in the articles and notices in the journal are those of their authors and not necessarily those of the Society.

From the Editor

I was putting together this issue and going through photos taken by Kevin Poile and me at the Alexandra Palace family history event back in April and saw the image I took of the café with the 'Building Memories' wall behind it. By coincidence many of our articles this time have a connection with war, it being a significant anniversary year for both the First and Second World Wars. There are few war veterans left to tell their tales. I was lucky enough a couple of years ago to interview a man who took part in the D-Day landings; although often harrowing it was worth recording his memories; they have now been preserved in a museum.

My husband, with better long term

memory than I have, knew the married name of one of our fellow university students, in June we are attending a talk she is giving in Burford on plastic in the environment. It will be amazing to see her again after a very long time living many miles apart – at least she continued in the biology field, unlike many of us. Given the subject of her research, it's a good thing I have negotiated for OFHS journals to start being wrapped in potato starch this year!

In the autumn I hope to have a couple of breaks too — one in Jersey with another university friend and her husband to celebrate our (significant) wedding anniversaries this year. I was bridesmaid at her wedding in March in

OFHS Fair

Saturday 5 October 2019, 10:00am–4:00pm Marlborough School, Woodstock, OX20 1LP

Plenty of stalls with advice and items to buy
Free Parking
Free Entry
Delicious food

Please Join Us!

For details visit http://news.ofhs.org.uk/fair/

Lancashire and it snowed. My car was the only one which could drive the hills in those conditions so my husband (to be) acted as relay chauffeur to get everyone to church. The wedding photos needed to be cropped as we were all wearing wellies in the snow! The honeymoon in Scotland was cancelled. Later this year I hope my brother will be flying in from abroad to ioin me in an ancestor trail in Scotland. We'll go to Edinburgh - to Charlotte Square where some ancestors lived in a magnificent house. They were boarding house keepers, but still lived very elegantly, just across the square from an infamous (to be) cousin, Field Marshal Douglas Haig. My family are not overkeen to be connected. Later we hope to go to Fort George where an even more distant ancestor soldier was based in the early 19th century.

Certainly this will be a year of reflection on memories for me. I hope you all continue to both extract from



relatives and record your own memories in order to pass them on to those in the future who may cherish them, be amused by them and wonder at them.

> Sue Honoré OFHS JOURNAL EDITOR editor@ofhs.org.uk

From the Chairman

I hope you have noticed the change in the wrapping of this journal. This new wrapper is made from potato starch, which replaces the old plastic one. Please do check your local waste collection scheme for information on its disposal. For me, here in the Vale of White Horse, it cannot go in with the recycling, it can't go in with the garden or food waste either. It can go in my garden compost heap though. Hopefully that will change with time.

Your local rules may be different. The important point is that the wrapper isn't plastic and if it should ever find itself loitering in a hedgerow, we know it will rot down after a while.

In the last journal, I was asking for someone to come forward to replace Steve Pickthall as treasurer. Before that got to you, we were seeking a secretary as well, as Angie Trueman moved to Devon. I'm pleased to say that we have found replacements for both Steve and

Angie. Mike Walker, new to the committee, has been brought up to speed with our accounting processes and Gay Sturt is moving over to the secretary's seat. John Cramer has taken on the overall organisation of our fair. Thank you all for what you have done and for what you will do to keep OFHS running.

Still, shuffling a diminishing resource will not keep OFHS running for ever. We need at least two more volunteers to join the committee if we are to avoid simply ceasing some of our activities. Please step forward. We also need people who can just help with tasks in the Society. Meanwhile we continue to work on (only) as many projects as manpower will permit.

An area we are always seeking more input on is publicity. There must be

many un-tapped outlets that we are not reaching. Please send me your ideas on places and people who could help. We can supply posters for notice boards, especially those for our fair. Meeting posters are probably only worth displaying within the Oxfordshire and those surrounding it — please do make sure societies (both family and local history) know about our meetings and fair.

By the time you read this, the AGM and three more fairs will have gone by. I hope I may have met a number of you along the way and will meet more of you at our own fair in October.

Malcolm Austen
CHAIRMAN
chairman@ofhs.org.uk

News from the Churchyards

Writing this at the start of June, another season's recording is well under way, with three OFHS teams operating again this year, at Great Milton, Great Tew and Leafield respectively. In addition, several parishes have local teams working in collaboration with OFHS. The team at Northleigh are continuing from last season and new teams have started work at Great Haseley and Pyrton following some training sessions in the winter and early spring.

As for last year's 'crop', some extra photos and checking required to

complete the Bampton CD have now been done and the task of building the final CD is now competing for your scribe's time with this season's recording. It is his fervent hope that this CD, OXF-MI-BAM will have been released by the time you read this!

The tradition of coincidental search requests relating to parishes where we happen to be recording seems to be continuing. We had a Search Service request from Texas relating to the EDGERLY family from Great Milton, one of whom emigrated to North America in

1665, founding the EDGERLY line on that continent. The client's particular interest was in family members before 1550, the starting date for the earliest surviving parish registers, so the search indexes could be of little help. It was therefore with some excitement that we were able to find the monument shown here. It had originally been a floor slab with inset brasses but has now been mounted vertically on the chancel wall to protect it from further wear. Typically for brasses of this age, the text is heavily abbreviated, but expanded its inscription is opposite.

This Robert is believed to have been one who died in 1551 and so made it into the parish register. Unfortunately the monument includes no dates so cannot provide other evidence of the family, in particular relating to a Francis

Of your charity pray for the soules of William Eggerley John Eggerley William Eggerley Elizabeth Eggerley the children of Robert Eggerley and Kateryn his wyfe

who may be a brother or a surviving child of Robert. However it definitely adds 'colour' to the family history.

Alan Simpson (3960)
MI CO-ORDINATOR
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A brass to the Eggerley/Edgerly family now on the chancel wall of Great Milton church

Projects Update

Minn & Buckler Images

Digitisation of several hundred topographical glass lantern slides has hit a slight snag. Due to the poor resolution of the scanning system Capita currently use it has been decided to recall the glass slides and find an alternative supplier. Samples are expected to be sent out to a number of prospective suppliers in the coming weeks. Oxfordshire History Centre will be checking the resolution of samples and making the final decision on who will be the digitisation company.

New OFHS Website

The project has taken a leap forward with a decision of a preferred supplier by the name of Community Sites. We still have a long way to go due to the complexity of our existing site together with new additions that the executive committee have requested. The website group are due to meet with the partner soon to layout the next stages of development.

DNA/Surnames

The DNA project now has 363 members, but is still looking for males with their surname line in Oxfordshire to be tested. The surname project is reworking some of its BMD data due to errors in the original files but hopes to complete that by autumn. Already some of the surnames are being written up and individuals who have volunteered their family details will be contacted shortly for any additional data.

Contact <u>dna@ofhs.org.uk</u> or <u>surname-project@ofhs.org.uk</u> if you have queries for either project.

MI Transcribing

Please see Alan Simpson's report on the previous page.

Dave Broughton
PROJECTS CO-ORDINATOR
projects@ofhs.org.uk

Membership

As you will see from another article in this journal, I have been looking through the back copies and it is pleasing to note that of those 185 members who joined in our first year, 20 remain part of our Society. Given the passage of over 40 years, their loyalty and longevity are commendable and, in thanks, we awarded Honorary Memberships to 16 individual members, some of whom were presented at our

June AGM. The other four already had Honorary Membership.

Sadly, as usual, we also have to mark the passing of members and it is with regret that we note the deaths of the members listed below.

One of them, Alan Watkins, was an early member of the Society. He gave several talks over the years, illustrated by his collection of old photographs and postcards, and published books on

Chipping Norton as well as being involved in the running of Chipping Norton Museum.

Gill King was an important member of the Society, her research centring on her Bicester family and the wider local history of the Bicester area, especially Bicester Priory and St Edburg's. She was proud that her mother's family went

back seven generations in Oxford. The Society appreciated Gill's contribution to the Oxford City Cemetery transcription project.

Susan Mattheus MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY membership@ofhs.org.uk

We are saddened to report the death of the following members

1408	David Booth of Witney	1508	Beryl Mawson of Lincolnshire
5962	Peter Davies of Oxford	3897	Patrick Reeves of Lymington
4947	Marion Dunkley of Rickmansworth	3487	Kaye Saunders of New Zealand
2638	Peter Howse of Sleaford	799	Alan Watkins of Chipping Norton
5686	Gill King of Bicester		

OFHS Family History Fair 2019

Following the end of the fair last October, before the organisers had a well-earned rest, the venue, St John Ambulance and caterer were booked again for this year's event. Thanks to Angie Trueman for the hard work she has put in to organising the fair over the past few years. In January the fair organisation team came out of hibernation and began the round of inviting stallholders and exhibitors.

This year, on 5 October, we will again be holding the fair at The Marlborough School, Woodstock, OX20 1LP with doors opening at 10:00am until 4:00pm. Entry is free.

As I write this in late May we already have 28 different organisations booked into the Sports Hall offering a wide range of services, research, advice, books, maps

and family history materials. So far other counties' Family History Societies who are booked to attend include: Berkshire; Buckinghamshire; Northamptonshire; Nuneaton & North Warks; Romany & Traveller; Suffolk; and Wiltshire. Please consult the latest information on our website https://news.ofhs.org.uk/fair/. The local Oxfordshire resources will again be in full force in the Enterprise Centre adjacent to the Sports Hall.

Please also bring along friends who may not have attended before. Both entry to the event and car parking are free. Good Food Catering will once again be providing refreshments so you can make a day of it.

John Cramer FAIR ORGANISER fair@ofhs.org.uk

Upcoming Meetings

Monday 7 October 2019
Title: Revisiting the Basics

Speaker: Computer Group Panel Discussion

Summary: This Computer Group session will be an open discussion on family history basics such as ways to record and keep track of your findings, whether on computer or paper; recording sources correctly; and basic searches - how to improve your chances to get the right person.

Monday 28 October 2019 Title: Coroners' Inquests Speaker: Kathy Chater

Summary: Coroners' Inquests are not just about how a person died. They can provide much useful information for genealogists: where and how people earned their livings, how they got on with family, friends and neighbours and a host of other facts that rarely appear in other official records. Family historians may also find an ancestor involved in another



way, as part of the jury, as a witness or one of the officials managing the hearing. **Speaker Background:** Kathy Chater has been tracing her own ancestry for nearly forty years. She is the author of *Tracing Your Huguenot Ancestors* (2012) and *The Reformation in 100 Facts* (2016). Her doctoral thesis was published as *Untold Histories: Black People in England and Wales during the British Slave Trade* (2009) and she has also written *Tracing Your Family Tree in England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales* (2nd ed. 2008) and *My Ancestor Was A Lunatic* (2014). She contributes articles and reviews on social and family history to magazines and websites.

Monday 25 November 2019

Title: From Agas to Ordnance Survey: Oxford Changing Townscape in Old Maps

and New

Speaker: Nick Millea

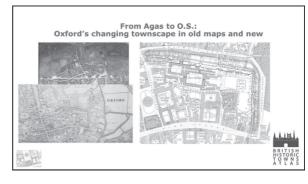
Summary: The talk will introduce the Oxford atlas project, using existing maps as guideposts, and how to create new maps from old. It will cover the new maps created for the Oxford atlas and go over the problems encountered. Finally spin-offs from the atlas project and future aspirations will be discussed.

Speaker Background:

Nick Millea has been Map Librarian at the Bodleian Library in Oxford since 1992. He

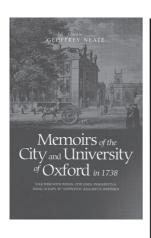
Upcoming Meetings/Book Reviews

had previously been Map Curator at the University of Sussex. He obtained his undergraduate degree at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne and a Postgraduate Diploma in Librarianship at Manchester Polytechnic. He is a Fellow of the Royal Geographic Society and has been and



still is involved in various other cartographic institutions. He is the author of a number of publications including the Gough Map in 2007. He has curated a number of exhibitions in the Bodleian Library. The latest, Talking Maps, opens to the public in the Weston Library in Oxford in July this year.

Book Reviews



Memoirs of the City and University of Oxford in 1738, by Geoffrey Neate (Ed), Oxford Historical Society (2018). Published by Boydell & Brewer Ltd. Price £25 plus p&p. ISBN: 9780904107296; hardback. Available from good bookstores, online book retailers or the publisher.

This book derives from a manuscript written by Elizabeth SHEPPARD (penname 'Shepilinda') and describes life in the Oxford colleges in 1738. Through her contacts she was able to access the colleges, accompanied by her friend 'Scrippy', to whom the memoirs are dedicated. Shepilinda was unusual in being a female diarist/ reporter of the time. She obviously was given fairly free access, as can be told from her notes on various rooms, grounds, people and activities, so was well-connected. She also wrote honestly, describing everything as she saw it, unconcerned about voicing her opinions – but then again she would hardly have expected her memoirs to be published nearly 300 years later!

On Lincoln College she notes: 'I want the skill of the most Eminent Poets to describe the many good things

Book Reviews

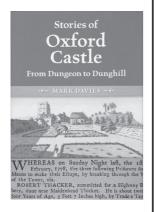
belongin[g] to this Wonderfull College, the Worthy Rector is the Rev Dr Isham, younger brother to Sir Edmund Isham Bar. An ancient Family; he is at present a <u>Batchelor</u> but not out of hopes of being Soon Married to the Eldest Daughter of the Rev Dr Pantin Master of Pembroke, NB her grandmother is dead...The Master's Lodgings are Magnificent, as are all his Entertainments; his Accomplishments are numerous, & his Manners most polite – his person agreeable for one of his age, which is 40 or thereabouts, rather more than less. NB his nose is too little for the Breadth of his face which is a pink Colour'.

The book has a long introduction and considerable footnotes supplied by both the editor and from college archivists who reviewed the sections relating to their own colleges. These notes are a mine of information and background to the main text and help to explain 18th century college life. In fact they make up the majority of the book, as the memoirs themselves are not that long. There is also a full bibliography and index. Towards the end are poems (or fractions of them) composed by Shepilinda to Scrippy.

Until his retirement, the editor Geoffrey NEATE worked at the Bodleian Library, with particular responsibility for computerising the catalogue entries for books published before 1920.

Stories of Oxford Castle from Dungeon to Dunghill, by Mark Davies (2nd edition, 2019). ISBN: 978-0-9535593-7-4 (hardback). Published by Oxford Towpath Press. Price: £10.00. Available from the publisher at http://oxfordwaterwalks.co.uk/?page_id=38 or from booksellers.

This book was first published in 2005, when Oxford castle was opened as a hotel, but has been revised and enlarged for this 2019 edition. The original content has been reviewed, updated and re-ordered in chronological sequence as well as new content being added. The book tells the stories of inmates of the gaol and



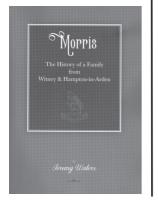
Book Reviews

their keepers and was compiled largely from The Oxfordshire Quarter Session records and *Jackson's Oxford Journal*.

It provides some early history of the castle then describes early governors/gaolers - the THORPE, ETTY, WISDOM and HARRIS families, followed by chapters on prisoners covering such topics as escape, hard labour, debtors, diseases, and executions, each illustrated with several stories of individuals.

Some of the most interesting characters include Anne GREEN who actually survived her hanging and lived a further 10 years; Elizabeth BOSWELL, who escaped twice; Marshall TIMS, a persistent reoffender from Hook Norton who was continually being readmitted for new crimes soon after being released; Henry BROWN who escaped by taking the keys from the gaoler's daughter but was caught near Wadham College betrayed by the clanking of his fetters; and the infamous Mary BLANDY of Henley who poisoned her father and was hanged in 1752.

This book would be very useful to those wanting to understand life as a prisoner or warder in the 17th to 19th centuries and a source of the background stories of prisoners from their own family or neighbourhood. The book contains several engravings, some maps, newspaper extracts and a few photos for illustration and the appendix details a list of all the known public executions at Oxford.



Morris: The History of a Family from Witney & Hampton-in-Arden, by Jeremy Waters (2018). Published privately by the author. Contact the author for further details: Jeremy.waters5@btinternet.com.

This book is self-published by the author and describes the Morris family, originally from Stow on the Wold. The narrative starts with the marriage in 1706 in Witney of John MORRIS senior (1680-1760) to his wife Mary CASTLE and continues with the dynasty of their son John MORRIS (1709-1776), a fuller in the blanket trade.

Book Reviews

Other surnames included in the most immediate family are FALKENER, WEST, FISHER, CRIPPS, ASHBY, DALE, LOVELL, PHILBRICK, THORNLEY, FARDON, BOLAM, MORPHY and BAILY.

Each generation is given a separate chapter and names are highlighted in bold. The first six chapters describe descendants of John MORRIS senior: chapter 7 describes some of the Quaker ancestors of the women who married into the family, with later Morris descendants making up the final four chapters. The locations in this account move from Witney to London, Essex, Nottinghamshire, Northumberland and Durham, Worcestershire, and as of 1841, Hampton in Arden in Warwickshire, then on across the globe to Canada, Africa and New Zealand. The family contains a long line of both Quakers and Church of England vicars as well as a notable apothecary and founder of a mental health institution which aimed to cure the inmates. Other professional middle-class occupations such solicitors, businessmen and those with military careers made up the rest of the family, yet this dynasty was founded by a humble fuller in Oxfordshire. One genealogical story is of Robert ASHBY (1710-1786) and his brother Stephen, from a strong Quaker family, who both married girls called Mary GILKES on the same day in the same place in 1731, which must have created a subsequent challenge for all family history researchers of this line!

The author has completed extensive research from original documents in several county archives, a family bible and papers, BMD data from family history societies and the General Register Office; it provides a good historical context and social background to the lives of his ancestors.

The donated copy of the book will be placed in the OFHS library in the OFHS room at the Oxfordshire History Centre for any member to consult on the days when OFHS Advisors are present (usually Tuesday & Thursday).

REVIEWER: Sue Honoré

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Tel: 01865 358151 Email: help@ofhs.org.uk

Oxfordshire County Library:

Westgate, OXFORD, OX1 1DJ

Open 09:00–20:00 Mon, Tue, Wed

Thu; 09:00–17:30 Fri, Sat

Closed Sun and Public Holidays
Web: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/

oxfordcentrallibrary

Tel: 01865 815509

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St Luke's Church, Temple Road, Cowley,

OXFORD, OX4 2HT Tel: 01865 398200

Email: oxhist@oxfordshire.gov.uk Web: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/

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Bank Holiday weekends

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Tel: 01865 398243

Email: archives@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk

Web:

Open

www.oxfordshirehealtharchives.nhs.uk

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09:00–21:00 Thu 09:00–16:30 Fri

Tel: 0118 937 5132

Email: arch@reading.gov.uk

Web: www.berkshirerecordoffice.org.uk

Society of Genealogists (SoG):

14 Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Road,

LONDON, EC1M 7BA

Open 10:00–18:00 Tue, Wed, Sat

10:00-20:00 Thu

Tel: 020 7251 8799 Web: www.sog.org.uk

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Family History Centre:

280 The Meadway, Tilehurst, READING,

RG30 4PE

Tel: 0118 941 0211 Web: www.rfhc.org.uk

The National Archives (TNA):

Ruskin Avenue, Kew, RICHMOND,

TW9 4DU

Open 09:00–19:00 Tue, Thu

09.00-17:00 Wed, Fri & Sat

Tel: 020 8876 3444

Web: www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

Family History Federation:

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Email: info@ffhs.org.uk

Web: www.familyhistoryfederation.com

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- wills@ofhs.org.uk

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OX4 2HT

Cowley, OXFORD

If you cannot find the role you are seeking in the list above, please contact the Helpline (see column 1 on this page) or consult www.ofhs.org.uk.

Diary Dates

For more dates, especially the many events hosted by the Society of Genealogists in London, see the joint GENUKI/FFHS event calendar at www.geneva.weald.org.uk.

Events in bold will have an OFHS presence.

October 2019

August 2019		October 2019		
Aug 7	SOG, LND 'Understanding and Using	Oct 5	Woodstock, OXF OFHS Family History Fair	
	the 1939 Register'	Oct 16	SOG, LND	
Aug 24	Esher, SRY		'Researching WWI and	
Ü	The London Family History		WWII Prisoners of War'	
	Show	Oct 17	Milton under Wychwood,	
			OXF	
September 2019			'Ascott Martyrs'	
Sep 4	SOG, LND		by Carol Anderson	
	'Westward Ho! Emigration		Milton-under-Wychwood	
	from the British Isles to		village hall, 7:30pm	
	North America'			
Sep 16	Kennington, OXF	November 2019		
•	'Radley College archives'	Nov 13	Woodstock, OXF	
	by Clare Sargent		'The Work of the Com-	
	Methodist Church, Upper		monwealth War Graves	
	Road, 7:45pm		Commission'	
Sep 27-28	Oxford, OXF		by Dick Richards	
·	AGRA Conference:		Soldiers of Oxfordshire	
	"Bloomin' Ancestors: Giv-		Museum, Park Street,	
	ing your Family History		Woodstock, 6:45pm, £10.	
	Personality'		Pre-booking required	
Sep 28	Bristol, BRI	Nov 26	Wheatley, OXF	
•	Bristol & Avon FHS Family		'Farms, farmhouses and	
	History Fair		farmers in Wheatley'	
Sep 30	Launton, OXF		by Michael Heaton	
-	'An Oxford Antiquarian's		Merry Bells Village Hall,	
	Part in Oxfordshire		8:00pm	
	History'	Ongoing	отоор	
	by Michael Heaney		-8 March 2020	
	Grange Farm Mews,	2 30., 2023	Oxford, OXF	
	Station Rd, 7:45pm		Talking Maps Exhibition	
	5tation Na, 71-5pm		Weston Library	
			vvC3tOII LIDIAI y	

August 2019

Meetings at Exeter Hall

Oxford Road, Kidlington OX5 1AB

General meetings take place in the large hall.

Items for sale and computer advice from 7:15pm. Talks start at 8:00pm.

Computer meetings (*) usually take place in the small hall.

Doors open at 7:15pm. Talks start at 7:30pm.

5 August 2019*

Fixing Fotos for Free with GIMP - Alan Simpson & Kevin Poile

23 September 2019

The Victorian Way of Death – Tom Doig

7 October 2019*

Revisiting the Basics – Computer Group Panel discussion

28 October 2019

Coroners' Inquests – Kathy Chater

25 November 2019

From Agas to Ordnance Survey: Oxford's Changing Townscape in Old Maps and New – Nick Millea

Back cover:

The Turner Arms pub sign at Ambrosden.

The landlord of this pub got himself into trouble in 1845. See the article on the Eldridge and Cattell families inside this journal. Photo by Sue Honoré

