

THE CHEPSTOW SOCIETY

Members Bulletin June 2023



www.chepstowsociety.co.uk



Some images from our
History Festival, 17th- 21st May 2023



Our successful History Festival day in the Drill Hall on 20th May was opened by Dame Claire Clancy, the Vice Lord Lieutenant of Gwent, with Councillor Tudor Griffiths, the Deputy Mayor of Chepstow.

Keith James (President) and Guy Hamilton (Chairman) were among the Chepstow Society committee members who showed the guests around the exhibitions and stalls, and then went up to the Castle Green and inside the walls of the Castle itself, to see craft villages and events put on by both the Civil War and the Anglo-Norman re-enactment groups.

Photos by John Burrows



CHEPSTOW MEMORIES



We are continuing to develop our ideas for capturing some of the memories and reminiscences of longstanding local residents who remember the 1950s, 60s and 70s in and around Chepstow.

At our Drill Hall events in May, hundreds of visitors saw the “then and now” exhibition of photos of the town, put together by Anne Rainsbury of the Museum with Nicky Bailey and Carolyn Read.

At the festival on the Sunday, much attention was given to the many more laminated old photos and images of the town as it used to be, for people to look through, and stimulate memories.

Several of those present agreed to be interviewed as part of our project. Others have already committed their memories to text, or have come forward with photos and memorabilia.

We are liaising with the Palmer Centre, who have already started working with our members Tim Ryan, Naylor Firth and others on a similar project.

We will work together, rather than compete or duplicate our efforts.

We would welcome more contributions – including more names and contact details of people who would be prepared to tell their stories.

We also need more volunteers – to help in the process of committing memories into a solid form, whether as text, or as audio (or even video) interviews which can then be transcribed.

This project is still in its infancy – we have not yet agreed what form it will eventually take, or whether we will need outside assistance.

Society members’ input and ideas will be essential in shaping this project. Perhaps we need a small working group to make more progress.

If anyone not involved in this project so far would like to be involved in the future, please contact Guy Hamilton, chair@chepstowsociety.co.uk, or 07786 500609.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023

The Society's Annual General Meeting took place in the Drill Hall on Wednesday 17th May.

Keith James was confirmed as President for the coming year, with Geoff Sumner as Vice-President.

The minutes of the 2022 AGM were agreed, with no matters arising, and Guy Hamilton's report as Chairman, covering activities over the past year, was received.

The accounts and Treasurer's report for 2022/23, prepared by David Nicholls and signed off by David Phillips as Auditor, were also agreed, with no questions raised.

The officers and committee members for the coming year were agreed unopposed, as follows:

Chair: Guy Hamilton
Vice-Chair: John Burrows
Secretary: Sallie James
Treasurer: David Nicholls

Other committee members, with specific roles to be confirmed at the first committee meeting, are:

Angela Middleditch
Anne Rainsbury
Marion Huckle
Nicky Bailey
Patrick Gale
Simon Maddison

The first meeting of this year's committee will take place in the Drill Hall on Wednesday 14th June at 7 30 pm.

In the interests of transparency – and in the hope that one or two more members might be interested in helping run our activities! - all Society members are invited to sit in at this meeting, and contribute ideas to help take the Society forward.

MEETING DATES

Chepstow Society monthly meetings take place on the third Wednesday of the month, at the Drill Hall, Lower Church St., Chepstow NP16 5HJ

Meetings start at 7:30 pm but all are welcome to join us for tea and coffee from 7:00 pm.

**All welcome
Members £1 Non-members £3**

WEDNESDAY 21ST JUNE

John Burrows

Chepstow – Britain's 'Border Bridge Capital'

PLEASE NOTE – THIS REPLACES THE PREVIOUSLY
ADVERTISED TALK, WHICH WE HOPE WILL BE
REARRANGED

WEDNESDAY 19TH JULY

Janet Karn - *Chepstow Notables*

No meeting in August

Wednesday 20th September

John Burrows

The Legacy of William Marshal and Isabel De Clare, of Chepstow, Pembroke and Leinster

Wednesday 18th October

Jeff Grosvenor

The Newport Transporter Bridge

More to follow...

When possible, meetings are also streamed via
Zoom - <https://zoom.us/join>

Meeting ID: 513 005 1668

Passcode: Waters



<https://botanicgarden.wales/>

EXCURSION

THE NATIONAL BOTANIC GARDEN OF WALES

SATURDAY 16th SEPTEMBER 2023

Meet: 08.15 Chepstow Leisure Centre car park. Depart: 08.30

The Gardens are located at Llanarthne, near Carmarthen.

After arrival at the Gardens, you are free to enjoy the many and varied garden styles, whether, Apothecary, Japanese, Bee or Walled, its walks, lakes, bridges, dams and cascades. Entry to the Birds of Prey centre is also included in our arrangement.

You will find many opportunities to learn more from the staff there and perhaps add to your garden stock. For meals there is a Café on site.

We meet again outside at about 15.00 and our coach will then return to Chepstow with an anticipated arrival time at about 17.30/17.45

The cost of the outing is £44.00, based on 25 of us travelling.

This outing is subject to a minimum of participants, so please express your interest and booking as early as possible.

Please advise the number of seats required together with your remittance and contact to:

excursions@chepstowsociety.co.uk

Our bank account for electronic transmissions is:

Barclays Bank, sort code: 20-60-58 ac. No: 73276457

We look forward to seeing you at the Gardens.

***Patrick Gale, Flat 33, Wye Apartments,
Chepstow, NP16 5FG***

Email: gale.p.mr@gmail.com

Mobile: 07760 452629 (for text messages)



CAPTION COMPETITION

(contributions welcome – but no prizes!)



