

Dates For Your Diary

Monday, 9th June

7.15 for a 7.30 start

AGM

followed by “**On the Beat**”

Stories of policing in a Hertfordshire town

1914-1918.

Talk given by Sarah Turner, Museum Curator
at Bishop Stortford Museum



Monday 8th September

7.15 for a 7.30 start

Farming in Hertfordshire in the 19th Century

Talk given by Dr. Julie Moore from the
University of Hertfordshire



Stanborough Farm c.1825

Monday, 8th December, 2.15 for a 2.30 start. Christmas open meeting

All talks are held at Friendship House, Wellfield Close, Hatfield. AL10 0BU
£1 for members £2 for non members.

Friendship House Under Threat



As many of you may know Friendship House is under threat of closure after £12,000 of annual funding was cut by Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council two years ago. The centre has been dipping into reserve money up till now, but this is no longer tenable. Friendship House is a wonderful, friendly meeting place for elderly people in Welwyn Hatfield and holds a lunch club five days a week. Also clubs and societies such as ourselves hold our meetings there. It would be hard to find another hall with such good facilities.

**At 10 am on Friday 20th June Grant Shapps M.P. will be visiting Friendship House.
Come along to show him your support for the Centre.**

In the meantime we are still meeting at Friendship House until we know otherwise, so I hope to see you there at our next meeting.

Christine Martindale

Panshanger Park Visit



Outside the Stable Block.

On Saturday 10th May 17 society members braved wind and rain to visit Panshanger Park. The visit was organised through Annie Butterfield, Facilities Co-ordinator for Lafarge Tarmac who own the site. Also accompanying us was Jennifer Gilbert a ranger for the Herts & Middx Wildlife Trust.

We all met at the stable block which is now the offices for Lafarge. A short walk from the Stable Block brought us to the footprint of Panshanger House. The house was built between 1806-9 to

take full advantage of the valley scenery devised by the famous gardener designer, Humphrey Repton. Sadly the building was demolished in 1954, but the Orangery and Conservatory are still standing although in a very dilapidated state. From here we walked to the Panshanger Oak an ancient tree believed to be more than 600 years old.

As well as the history of the house we were told how the Park was being developed. The eastern side of the Park is now open to the public and guided walks have been organised by the Herts. & Middx. Wildlife Trust led by Jennifer.



The Panshanger Oak

Despite the rain we all enjoyed our visit. Thanks go to Lafarge for allowing the walk and to Annie and Jennifer for being our guides.

Hatfield & Its People Booklets



Most society members are aware of the "Hatfield & Its People" booklets published by the Workers Educational Assoc. in the 1950s & 60s. The booklets are full of authoritative information, being excellent sources of reference for anyone interested in the history of Hatfield. Over the years people have wonder how to obtain copies, this has

now been solved. A small group led by Phil Marris have undertaken to reissue the booklets, each with a new comprehensive index done by Hazel Bell. The booklets have been digitised and are gradually being added to various internet outlets such as:-

www.lulu.com www.amazon.com www.barnesandnoble.com

you will also be able to buy copies from our publications officer

The price of each booklet will be £4 + postage.
