

Dates For Your Diary

Monday 8th June, 7.15 for a 7.30 start,

AGM.

Followed by

"The Picture Postcard: an eyewitness of History"

Talk by Mark Andrew Pardoe.

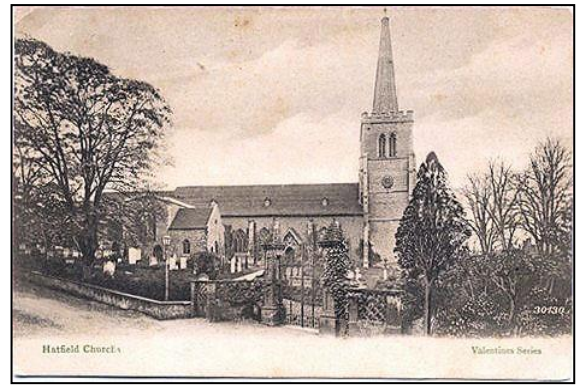
Monday 14th September, 7.15 for a 7.30 start.

"Treasures from the Archive"

Talk by Marion Hill,

Learning & Access Officer

Hertfordshire Archives & Local Studies



Postcard of St Etheldreda's Church, The spire was added in 1847 after Queen Victoria's visit the year before. It was dismantled c.1930.

Monday 14th December, 2.15 for a 2.30 start. (provisional)

All meetings are held at Friendship House, Wellfield Close, Hatfield. AL10 0BU

£1 members £2 non members.

Volunteers Urgently Needed!!

As our next meeting will be the AGM, I am again urgently asking for volunteers to join the Committee. The task is not an onerous one, meeting only 4 – 5 times a year to facilitate the way forward for our Society. We also need more volunteers to help with the Society's varied activities such as exhibitions and research

Our Society first called "Hatfield This Century" was founded 25 years ago in the spring of 1990 by an enthusiastic group of people who were worried that Hatfield's history during the 20th century, a time of great change, would be lost. At the turn of the century our name change to Hatfield Local History Society, but our aims stayed the same promoting Hatfield's history whenever we could by meetings, newsletters, publications and events.

Last year, even with our very small group of volunteers, we had a successful year, publishing two books on WW1, republishing the Hatfield & Its People Booklets with improved indexes, as well as producing our quarterly newsletter. Four meetings were organised with interesting talks, and an outing was arranged to Panshanger Park. Along with all these activities we also attended several events to promote the work of the Society.

Let's keep the Society active for another 25years, but we cannot carry on without more help! So if you are interested in the work of the Society and want to see it go from strength to strength please volunteer, get in touch with me or speak to me at the AGM.

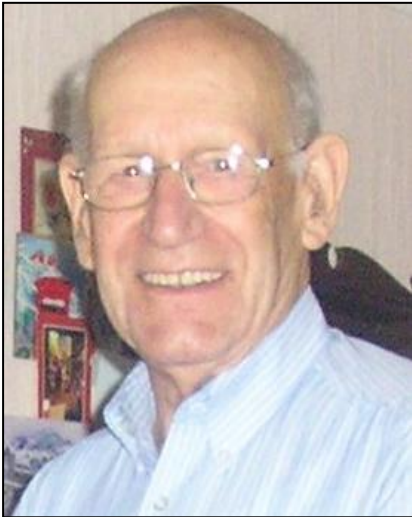


The Old Hatfield Summer Picnic, Saturday 15th August.

Once again we will be having a stall at the Picnic in Salisbury Square.

So come along to see us at the History Corner and join in the fun.

Frank Cox 15th May 1923 – 30th March 2015



Frank Cox

Sadly at the age of 92 Frank Cox has died after a short illness.

Frank lived & worked in Hatfield for most of his adult life, coming to the town with his parents when he was 17. He married Isabel a Hatfield girl and raised his three sons in the town. Although later in life he and Isabel moved to Welwyn Garden City he was still a Hatfield boy at heart.

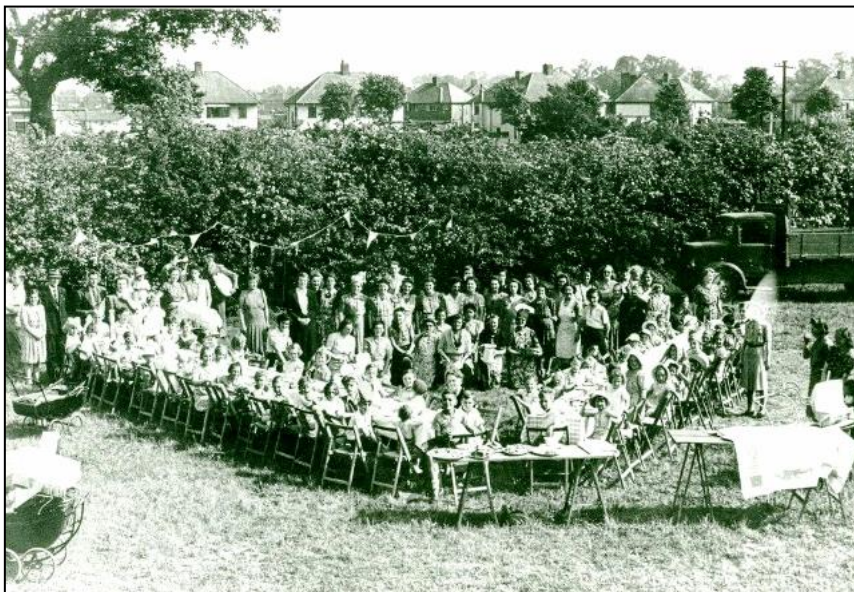
Frank was enthusiastic about the history of our Town becoming a founder member our Society in spring 1990. He edited our newsletters until December 2008 and was a key member of our committee before standing down in 2010. Frank also research and produced several booklets on the history of Hatfield which are still selling today. As well as all this he was often seen volunteering at Mill Green Museum.

In the last couple of years Frank has resided at Greenacres Care Home coming back to Hatfield at the end of his life. We have and will miss Frank's knowledge & enthusiasm; our thoughts are with his family at this time.

Titanic Enquiry

Recently Mill Green Museum has had an enquiry from a Mr Dennis Gunn, looking for information regarding a relative, Joseph Alfred Gunn. Joseph originally lived in Batterdale, Hatfield with his family. He was a second class steward on the RMS Titanic, losing his life when the ship sunk, in April 1912, his body was never found.

The Bishop's Hatfield Parish Magazine May 1912 has a short paragraph about the sinking and mentions Joseph. "*One of those lost was very well known to many Hatfield people: Joseph Gunn was loved and respected by a large circle of friends and acquaintances*". The magazine goes on to mention that collections were made all over the Parish for the widows and orphans of those who lost their lives. The total collected was £160.0.6d.



Photograph from Mill Green Museum

V.E. Day Celebrations in Hatfield

Residents of Hatfield Garden Village enjoying a well deserved party, held at Manor Parade to celebrate victory in Europe, seventy years ago.