



o. Merchant's House
Market Place
Colyton
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EX24 6JR
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22 December 2019

Colyton Parish History Society Newsletter

Happy Christmas everyone! We look forward to seeing you all again at the Society's annual Social Evening in the New Year. Also if any of you have any family archives or personal reminiscences about the activities of the Colyton Auxiliary Unit during the 2nd World War we would be delighted to hear from them (see below.)

Sarah Charman

Editor

1. News

a) CPHS January 2020 talk

The first CPHS meeting of 2020 will take place on: **Wednesday, 22 January 2020** at 7.30 pm in Colyton Town Hall.

New Year Social Evening

Including

'The Further Adventures of Henry Pitman'

A Monmouth Rebel from Colyton

The continuing story of Henry Pitman's exciting life after escaping from slavery in Barbados and returning to London, presented by author Andy Stephenson.

'Sir Thomas Gates – New World Adventurer'

Further research from recently discovered archives about the man from Colyford who became Governor of Virginia, presented by Sarah Charman & John Dover.

A quiz and other contributions complete the evening's entertainment.

CPHS extend a warm welcome to everyone to come along and enjoy the evening. Our new and exciting programme of talks for 2020 will also be announced.

Members £2, Non-Members £4 to include refreshments



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b) February talk

Colyton Parish History Society
presents
WW2 East Devon
Auxiliary Units - Highly Secret!
The Untold Story of Colyton's Unit

presented by
Coleshill Auxiliary
Research Team

Wed 26th February 2020
Colyford Village Hall

7.30pm. £2 members, £4 non-members
includes refreshments – All Welcome
CART
The Colyton Auxiliary Research Team



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WW2 East Devon Auxiliary Units

Highly Secret! – The Untold Story of Colyton's Unit

Presented by

Coleshill Auxiliary Research Team

Groups of civilian volunteers were highly trained (all signed the Official Secrets Act) and would have disappeared to their secret underground operational bases when the Germans arrived. These units were trained and prepared to come out at night to blow up bridges, railways, transport, airfields and assassinate high ranking German officials and British collaborators. Most went to the grave without telling their families or friends what they were trained to do.

Such a patrol existed in the Colyton area, and archives have been discovered giving more details of members, training and locations of secret operational bases.

CART would welcome any archive material (which can be copied and returned) and family reminiscences. Please come along and take part in what is sure to be a fascinating evening.

Wednesday, 26th February, Colyford Village Hall, 7.30pm

£2 Members, £4 non-members, includes refreshments

Please contact secretary@colytonhistory.org

Or Tel 01297 552626

2. CPHS Information

a) Membership fees

A brief reminder that annual membership fees are **due from 1 January 2020** and as agreed at the last annual general meeting will be **rising to £8 for an individual and £12 for a couple**. Fees can be paid at any meeting. For those of you who pay by standing order or BACS, payment can be made at Lloyds Bank, Sort Code 30-90-37, Account Number 00992240. Please remember to adjust the sum you pay before the payment is due from your account. If you have any queries please email treasurer@colytonhistory.org



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3. Other Organisation's Events

a) Axminster Historical Society - Winter Talks 2019-2020

8 January 2020 - A History of Shute House _ Historian BijanOmrani reveals the romantic and tempestuous history of Shute House and the families who lived there. The secret lives of the Victorian and Edwardian gentry, their lost writings, and the tragedies which made Shute national news in the 19th century; a brilliant and extraordinary story which has partly been forgotten and partly suppressed.

5 February 2020 - Devon Festivals - Robert Hesketh delves into the origins of Devon's rich variety of festivals, many deeply rooted in the county's history and folklore. He tells of Flaming Tar Barrels, Hot Pennies, Wassailing, Raising the Glove, Ale Tasting, Tip Tip Toeing and much more besides.

4 March 2020 - Exeter Before the Railway - Alan Rosevear paints a picture of how people travelled before railways; of coach travel, which appeared in the 16th & 17th Centuries, but was very costly and limited by the state of the roads. How Turnpike Trusts improved the infrastructure and cities like Exeter were forced to widen streets and city gates.

1 April 2020 - Parish Records and What They Tell Us – Jane Ferentzi-Sheppard tells us where to find parish records, when they started and what they look like. They record Baptisms, Burials and Marriages and Parish chests can include vestry minutes, rate books, removal and settlement orders, bastardy bonds etc. giving a much wider picture of what was happening in the Parish.

6 May 2020 - to be Confirmed

Meetings held 7:30 pm at The Bradshaw Room, Axminster Heritage Centre, Thomas Whitty House, Silver Street, Axminster, Devon EX13 5AH

Membership £10 includes entry for all talks. Non Members £2 a talk
For latest info see: <https://axminsterheritage.org/axminster-heritage-events/>



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