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20 May 2023

Colyton Parish History Society Newsletter

1. News

a) New Lace display at Heritage Centre



A new exhibition of exquisite hand made lace pieces with a 'Royal' theme has gone on display this week at the Heritage Centre. The items include a baby's bonnet, a small pillow, crowns and a swan shaped creation for adorning the front of a lady's dress. The pieces have been kindly loaned to us once again by the Honiton Lace Museum.



b)

Memories of King Charles III Coronation

After a weekend of colourful festivities nationally and here in Colyton to mark the Coronation of King Charles III, what are your abiding memories? For me two things stand out - firstly King Charles' face as he prepared for his anointing and then to be crowned in Westminster Abbey. He appeared both fearful and full of humility with the weight of the Kingdom seemingly upon his shoulders. I found it very moving.



a. Merchant's House
Market Place
Colyton
Devon
EX24 6JR
e. info@colytonheritagecentre.org
w. www.colytonheritagecentre.org

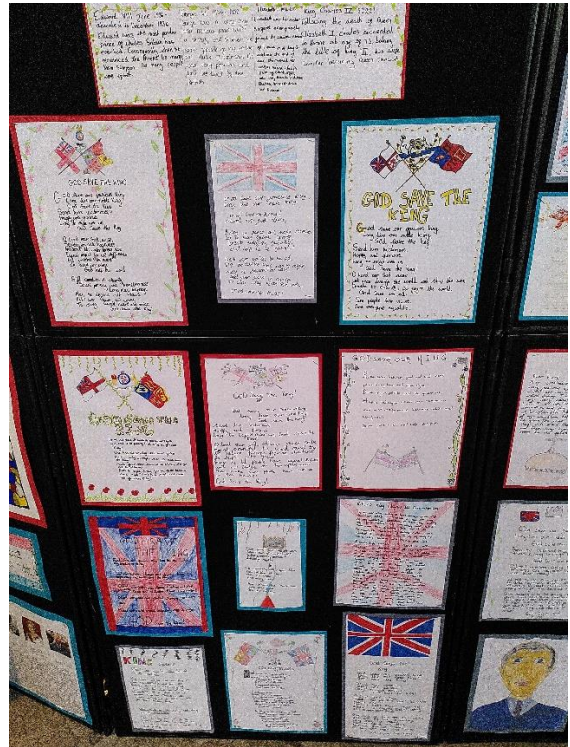
This image contrasted with the relaxed and smiling King who emerged on to the balcony at Buckingham Palace afterwards with his family.

And secondly I enjoyed going round the various events held here in Colyton and seeing lots of smiling happy faces enjoying themselves.





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We would love to have your thoughts on King Charles III's Coronation to add to the archive for future generations of Colytonians to read.
If you would like to contribute you can either email me your thoughts and any photographs at sarah.charman@yahoo.co.uk or write to me c/o the Heritage Centre in Market Place Colyton.

c) Festival of the Environment to mark the Coronation of King Charles III



A fascinating festival of the environment to mark the Coronation of King Charles III has also been taking place at the Town Hall yesterday and today including talks by Fiona Matthews on bats and Anne Swithenbank on gardening..

d) Memories of the late Queen's coronation in 1953

In the Heritage Centre we have an archive of photographs and articles showing Royal events as they were celebrated here in Colyton going back over a hundred years. The archives also include comments from local people who have contributed their memories of the last Coronation 70 years ago. A small selection is currently on display in the Centre.

i) 1953 Coronation Memories – Marian Sydenham

The wireless in the corner of the breakfast room was on from early in the morning on the day of the Coronation. There were paying guests staying in the farmhouse at the time and they too sat airline style in the hall in their Edwardian clothes and listened to the broadcast. Gran had to cook their dinner at midday. I remember particularly hearing on the wireless 'God Save the Queen!' being shouted out very loudly three times during the Coronation ceremony.



In the afternoon Mum and Dad took me and my younger sister Pamela dressed in our best clothes (school uniform) down into the centre of Colyton. Children from the Council School were doing Maypole dancing in the square which really impressed me. There was other entertainment - 'John Bull and Britannia' sat on the steps outside the doors of the Colcombe surrounded by primary school children.

We went into the Town Hall to receive our Coronation mugs which were given to all the young people of Colyton. Numerous television screens were lined up in rows inside the Hall. These were erected by Stratton & Co from Lyme Regis for people to watch the Coronation.

A Coronation tree was planted at Mounthill but didn't survive: it was strangled by brambles and weeds.

Later in the year Manor House School took us to the cinema in Seaton to see a film of the Coronation in colour. Celebrations continued for over a year after the Coronation and the Queen wore her Coronation dress to many events around the country so people could it.

ii) My 1953 Coronation Experiences - Sue Rumney



My brother Andrew and I were brought up on an agricultural college in Surrey where my Father taught horticulture.

My Mother brought a television for us to watch the Coronation of Elizabeth 11 in 1953. This strange small cabinet arrived and was put in the corner of our living room. We were the only family at the college with a television and Mum invited some of the staff to join us for the ceremony. She provided food for us all and we were squashed into the small living room glued to the "box"! Poor Mum was suffering from an upset stomach and must have wished us all further!

I don't remember much of the Coronation, I was only 7 years old and didn't appreciate the significance of the ceremony at the time. I was given several coronation items, a £5 coin; a mug and a tiny coronation coach complete with horses. Sadly only the coin remains.



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2. Other CPHS Matters

a) Heritage Centre Open for the summer

The Heritage Centre opened for the summer season on Tuesday 4 April until **Thursday 29th September 2023.**

The Heritage Centre is staffed by friendly volunteers who are happy to help with your researches into a family tree or the history of a property in Colyton.

Opening Times: 11.00am – 3.00pm on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday.
Please check website for extended summer opening times.

b) Summer Outing

We are looking to organise a summer outing again this year. More details to follow.

c) Annual Membership Fees Due

A reminder that annual membership fees for 2023 were due from the beginning of January: £8 for a single membership or £12 for a couple. Subscriptions can be paid at any Society meeting. Or they can be paid by standing order or BACS transfer using the following details: Colyton Parish History Society, Sort Code: 30-90-37, A/c no 00992240 (Lloyds Bank.)

3. Other Organisations Events

a) East Devon A.O.N.B

Meadow Safari Bolshayne Farm, Southleigh Road, Colyton Wednesday 31 May 2pm - 5pm Free event An early summer safari into the depths of a wonderful wetland meadow. Booking is essential. Details of parking given on booking – to book please click on: Meadow Safari Event below
<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/616305816287>

Walking at a leisurely pace giving everyone time to stop and enjoy wildflowers such as orchids, yellow rattle, scabious, and other traditional wet meadow flowers. Inspired by this glorious carpet of colour, we will return to the barn to create artworks with artist Rosie Stiling from Double Elephant Print Workshops. This amazing diversity of wildflowers are important sources of pollen and nectar for insects. The walk will include bug hunts for children – armed with sweep nets and bug pots then can get up close and personal to meet our important pollinators.

Many thanks to John Walker, farmer at Bolshayne, who has been farming for wildlife for over 40 years. This meadow almost became a potato field, but work stopped when a chorus of croaking frogs were heard. Shortly after, the site was then designated an SSSI – Site of Special Scientific Interest – being one of the best examples of a wet fen meadow in Devon. If the event is fully booked by the time you book, John will be hosting a bat walk later in the summer – let me know and I can add you to a priority list.

4. **News items you may have missed**

- a) Sir Francis Drake caused a scandal for this land

[Land in Devon for sale at Trill Musbury near Axminster | Midweek Herald](#)

- b) Memorial to slave owner removed from church

<https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/uknews/memorial-to-slave-owner-removed-from-church-in-historic-move/ar-AA1bnEEu?ocid=msedgntp&cvid=e9fd4e78aaba4f8ebbcc11b25beef1a1&ei=13>

- c) Lyme Regis Museum celebrating Mary Anning's birthday this weekend

<https://www.midweekherald.co.uk/news/23525489.lyme-regis-museum-celebrate-birthday-mary-anning/?ref=eb&nid=2397>

- d) History of All Hallows Playing Field

<https://www.midweekherald.co.uk/news/23477580.honiton-history-story-allhallows-playing-field/?ref=rss&IYA-mail=6d3e6480-e574-4be7-9d9b-5e322aa8f0a2>

- e) Coronation Day memories

https://www.midweekherald.co.uk/news/23500734.coronation-day-memories-charles-camilla-east-devon/?utm_source=Newsletter&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=DM72322

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