COLYTON
HERITAGE CENTRE

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EX24 6JR
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29 July 2024

Colyton Parish History Society Newsletter

This month – the annual Somers Day parade in Lyme Regis, a request from the Friends of Colyton Library for information about its history and another family history request this time from Anthony Restarick.

1. News

a. Annual Somers' Day Parade, Lyme Regis – 24 July 2024

The annual Somers' Day parade took place in Lyme Regis last week. This commemorates Sir George Somers, who was born in Lyme and who in 1609 - together with former Colytonian Sir Thomas Gates who was on his way to Jamestown to become Governor - led the third supply fleet to the fledgling English colony at Jamestown in Virginia. They were on board the *Sea Venture* which was wrecked on Bermuda. The tale of their escape and survival of all on board may well have prompted Shakespeare to write *The Tempest.* Lyme Regis has been twinned with Bermuda since 1996 and tripled with Jamestown since 2015.

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b. History of Colyton Library - Request for help from Jane Dauncey

Do you know anything about the history of Colyton Library? When can you first remember visiting it, where was it? Have you any memories you can share? When did it move to its current site?

Libraries Unlimited is celebrating 100 years of Devon Libraries this year 2024 and the Friends of Colyton Library (FoCL) are planning an event next year to celebrate this and to share the history of Colyton Library.

We know that in 1944 it was in the Social Club and that the existing library was built on the current site in the 1970s. If you have any memories or information that you are able to share with us please do contact me: Jane Dauncey, Chair of FoCL jdauncey1@gmail.com 01297 552514 or 07885 597779.

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c. Family History information request -

Anthony Restarick and his dog called into the Heritage Centre the other day seeking information about the Restorick family. We showed him the information we have available in our archives and encouraged him to read the accounts of some notable Restorick's -such as those involved in the Monmouth Rebellion – in some of the books on sale in the Centre. If anyone has any further information about the Restorick family Anthony would be delighted to hear from you. Please let me know and I will put you in touch with him. (sarah.charman@yahoo.co.uk)

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2. Other organisations events

a. South West Heritage Trust

1 August - 5 August - Location: Barnstaple Guildhall

A rail history and model railway exhibition at Barnstaple Guildhall celebrating North Devon railways on the 170th anniversary of the opening of the railway line from Exeter to Barnstaple.

Visit the Exhibition

Rail Fest – South West Heritage Trust (swheritage.org.uk)

3. Items you may have missed

a. Would you buy Drake's island?
https://news.sky.com/story/would-you-buy-six-acre-island-off-devon-with-a-private-beach-and-15-ghosts-13184211?fbclid=IwY2xjawETnnNleHRuA2FlbQIxMQABHSEvYi-3x5N0TwzEqmHXiph8izn407NDBReVABavEbqW_p0oho6AoGRU-w_aem_cle_pFQ7E2yC7Rrg0uFBUg

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