COLYTON
HERITAGE CENTRE

a. Merchant's House
Market Place
Colyton
Devon
EX24 6JR
e. info@colytonheritagecentre.org
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Colyton Parish History Society Newsletter

20 December 2025

Wishing you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas and best wishes for 2026. Lots to look forward to. In the New Year we will be launching our 'Colyton houses through time' project - more on this below and there is also an interesting and entertaining programme of talks to look forward to.

1. News

a. Colyton Houses Through Time project – Date for your diaries

As mentioned in last month's newsletter Colyton History Society is launching a project in the New Year to find out more about the history of properties here in Colyton, who lived in them over time and what those individuals and families did - similar to the process used in the tv documentary series *A House Through Time* presented by David Olusuga.

We are planning to hold an introductory meeting **in the Heritage Centre** on **Tuesday 20 January 2026 from 2pm to 4 pm** to discuss how we take this exciting project forward. If you are interested in joining the project or are simply keen to research the history of your own home please do come and join us. We will have on display some of the material we already have in our archives about various properties here in Colyton.

Do please come along and talk to us. For those new to research, the project will provide guidance on how to go about finding information on the history of your home and where to look.

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If you have already begun researching the history of your house here in Colyton Parish and are willing to share what you have discovered including photographs please do bring your findings along.

If you have any questions do please talk to Sarah Humphries, (cloamcrazy@gmail.com), Claire Ross (clairehross61@gmail.com) or me – Sarah Charman (sarah.charman@yahoo.co.uk) We look forward to talking with you.

Reference

BBC Two - A House Through Time

b. **Latin and Greek classes** –

We understand that local historian Bijan Omani is planning a course of Latin for Beginners in Lyme Regis in 2026. More information will be available in the New Year, but if you are interested in attending please email Sarah Humphries at cloamcrazy@gmail.com

c. Roger Conant

If you are interested in East Devon's contribution to the history of the early development of America you might like to sign up to receive copies of the *Conant Courier* conantcourier@gmail.com

This is a free online transatlantic newsletter launched by another local historian Michael Downes to mark the 'twinning' of East Budleigh and Salem, Massachusetts. There is also a Colyton connection to Roger Conant. His grandfather was John Clark, one of Colyton's original Feoffees.

East Budleigh is staging a **Peacemaker Festival on 16-17 May 2026** as a tribute to Roger Conant who founded Salem, known as the City of Peace, in 1626.

2. Other organisations events

a. National Archives – Using Discovery

Free webinar -

Using Discovery Tickets, Sat 10 Jan 2026 at 10:30 | Eventbrite

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3. Items you may have missed

a. New discovery: The 'sacred boundary' surrounding Stonehenge
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b. Hoard of gold and silver Iron Age coins found in Dorset to go on sale

Hoard of gold and silver Iron Age coins found in Dorset to go on sale.

c. Appeal launched to buy land around Cerne Abbas Giant

Appeal launched to buy land around Cerne Abbas Giant

d. Urgent appeal to keep £3.5 million artwork in Dorset
https://www.msn.com/en-gb/money/other/urgent-appeal-to-keep-3-5-million-artwork-in-dorset/ar-AA1R527R