

NEWSLETTER

Updating Hampshire's History

No. 20

Autumn 2022

VICTORIA
COUNTY
HISTORY



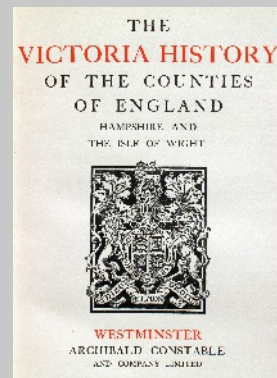
Hampshire



Queen Elizabeth II
1926-2022

The death of Queen Elizabeth II has awakened awareness of her place in our history, clearly felt by the huge number of those who bade her farewell in person and countless others who watched the ceremonies from home. For me, the New Elizabethan Age began as I watched her Coronation on my family's first television - with a very small black-and-white screen - and continued throughout her reign fulfilling the commitments made then, carrying out with grace and serenity the manifold duties of her role. The splendour of the ceremonial we have all recently shared - on much larger screens with magnificent colour - was a fitting culmination for her years of service.

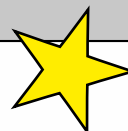
Anna McNair-Scott, Chair, **VCH Hampshire**



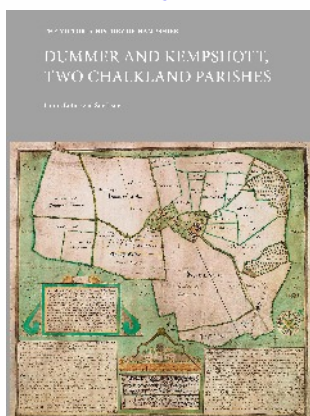
Title page of First Edition
1900

Dummer and Kempshott, Two Chalkland Parishes by Jennie Butler and Sue Lane

NEW PUBLICATION



Our latest **VCH Short** will be launched on 26 November 2022



Dummer, a small parish on the chalk downlands south of Basingstoke, has a rich and well documented history. Manorial records from the 16C onwards provide a fascinating account of communal farming practices before enclosure in 1743. The parish is distinguished by an unusual level of protestant non-conformity in the late 17C, followed by the strongly evangelical outlook when John Wesley visited and preached in All Saints' church in 1736 and 1739. The diaries of lord of the manor, Stephen Terry, which vividly bring to life Dummer and Kempshott in the 19C, are excellent examples of the value of personal testimony in local history. Read about Jane Austen, the Swing Riots, emancipated enslaved Africans, trade unionist Joseph Arch and the childhood home of Sarah Ferguson, Duchess of York. At Kempshott, joined with Dummer in 1879, the future King George IV leased the grand mansion as a hunting lodge and transformed social life for the gentry of north Hampshire.

EXHIBITIONS in WINCHESTER

Over the Spring and Summer, **VCH Hampshire** has displayed two exhibitions of our work in the Hampshire Record Office in Winchester.

Heritage Open Day
17 September 2022



Standing exhibition at Hampshire
Record Office, April to May 2022

Tudor Visits to Basingstoke Tudor Basingstoke was on the main route from London to the west country, but it was royal progresses to leading ministers that brought the monarchs here. We do not know whether these included formal royal visits to the town itself, but we can be sure that the coming of large numbers of courtiers and servants, often for several days, would have affected its citizens, from alehouse gossip to the rich merchants and suppliers of goods and services. Henry VIII visited Sir William Sandys, later Lord Chamberlain, several times at his house at The Vyne. Subsequently, Basing House became a focus under Sir William Paulet, later Marquis of Winchester, Lord Treasurer continuously from Henry VIII to Elizabeth until his death in 1572. All the Tudor monarchs visited Basing: Henry, Edward, Mary and Philip of Spain and Elizabeth. In 1601, Elizabeth spent five days at Basing, while The Vyne was taken over for the French ambassador and his retinue of 400. Such visits both encouraged new building work and provided opportunities to show off what the owners had already done to display their wealth and prestige. The Vyne was completely rebuilt by Sandys: much of this has since been destroyed but the core survives. Basing House was almost completely rebuilt from 1530s on an extravagant scale: parts were already superfluous and demolished after 1601, long before the 17C civil wars.



A Procession of Queen Elizabeth I

John Hare

Diamond Jubilee Celebrations, 22 June 1897



In the morning people lined the streets to watch the procession. A special feature was a series of carriages depicting aspects of the Queen's reign. The first was a brightly decorated carriage on which a young lady sat on a throne playing the part of the Queen with the Archbishop of Canterbury in the act of placing the crown on her head surrounded by ladies of the court dressed after the fashion of 1837.

When the procession was over, nearly 3,000 people took their places for dinner at tables that extended from the far end of Winchester Street to Goldings on London Road. Just before the meal began, K Company fired their rifles which startled two horses that were being taken back to the *Red Lion*. They leapt onto one of the tables, overturning the plates and dishes and frightening the people nearby.

After the meal was over, the crowd followed the bands to the common where there were beer tents and other refreshment tents, swing-boats, coconut shies and other fairground attractions. There were sports on the common that included sack races, tug of war, climbing the slippery pole and treacle buns. This last game is likely to have been the one where a series of buns liberally coated in treacle were suspended from ropes and the competitors

with their arms tied behind their backs had to jump up and try to take a bite out of the bun.

In the evening couples danced on the common until about nine o'clock when they drifted back to town to see the illuminations. There was dancing in the streets to the music of the bands. The *Hants and Berks Gazette* was so impressed by the celebrations that it began its report by saying "***Such a day there never was in the history of Basingstoke***".

Bob Clarke

Coronation Review at RAF Odiham, 15 July 1953



Three thousand airmen were housed in a tented town to prepare for the event with 1,200 on parade. Nearly 1,000 aircraft were involved of which 641 were in the flypast. *Derek Spruce*

Royal Opening of Hampshire Record Office



Sir Colin Stansfield Smith, the architect of Hampshire Record Office, shows a model of the building to Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II during the official opening on 19 November 1993; the photograph was taken in the foyer of the office (by the *Hampshire Chronicle*). In

2022 the Record Office became one of six structures associated with Queen Elizabeth to be given Grade II Listed status by Historic England to mark the Platinum Jubilee. *David Rymill, HRO*

Celebrations of Marriage of future George V and Queen Mary, July 1893

This royal event was celebrated in Basingstoke 'under conditions most favourable to public festivity'. Schools were closed, and trade establishments and workshops from noon. 'In the early morning, and at intervals throughout the day, the bells of St Michael's



tower chimed forth joyous peals', while the decorations of the main streets consisting of flags and bunting, although 'not elaborate or expensive', were sufficient 'to impart a bright and pleasing appearance'. The most ornately decorated premises were those of Thomas Burberry. The festive spirit was also evident in a large procession, which included, apart from civic dignitaries, 'a representation, by means of some fifty cars, of the various trades and industries ... carried on in the town'. There were also tableaux, sport, dancing and other amusements all of which were greatly enjoyed by the inhabitants of the town and surrounding area. (Quotations are from *Hants and Berks Gazette*, 8 July 1893).

Roger Ottewill

Royal Visit to the Arc

King Charles III (then Prince of Wales) visiting The Arc in Winchester, and the statue of Licoricia, 3 March 2022.

Licoricia of Winchester was a 13C Jewish financier and businesswoman, who worked with Henry III, Queen Eleanor and Simon de Montfort, and who was involved in the rebuilding of Westminster Abbey. She was murdered in 1277, and her statue stands opposite the site of the city's 13C synagogue. *Picture courtesy of Hampshire County Council / Gilbert Yates*



Council / Gilbert Yates

BOOKS AVAILABLE FROM: The Willis Museum, Basingstoke, the Basingstoke Discovery Centre and the Hampshire Record Office Winchester.



Mapledurwell



Steventon



Medieval Basingstoke



Cliddesden, Hatch and Farleigh Wallop