



May 2011

**Tadley and District History Society
(TADS) - www.tadshistory.com**

**Next meeting - Wednesday 18th May 2011
at St. Paul's Church Hall, 8.00 to 9.30pm**

**'The Duke of Wellington's
House at Stratfield Saye'**

By Brigadier Michael Aris, CBE, DL.

(Everybody welcome - visitors £2.50)

Digitithe Hampshire

Hampshire Record Office has got a grant to digitise data from the 1840s Parish Tithe Maps, including Tadley. They are now looking for volunteers to do the work. Training will be given and the work can then be done at home on your own computer. More information and contact details from Carol or Richard.

*Comments, queries and suggestions to Richard Brown (0118) 9700100,
e-mail: richard@ilexind.plus.com or Carol Stevens (0118) 9701578*

www.tadshistory.com

TADS Meeting 15th June 2011:

‘The History of the Royal Berkshire and Battle Hospitals’

By Marshall Barr

Last meeting 20th April:

‘A History of Hampshire's Maps 1575-1820’

by Gill Arnot, Winchester Museum Service

From no maps, to maps, to 21st century Sat. Navs. But why write a (1086) Domesday-type tome when you can draw pictures?

Who's the centre of the Universe? Hampshire wasn't. Not even Britain.

We were depicted by a 16th century cartographer who based his work on a Roman map (2nd century AD) as down the bottom left-hand corner and facing sideways. EAST was where North is shown now. Devon and Cornwall featured big because of the importance of tin and copper - even the warring tribes were shown fighting over these precious metals!

So, maps were big for pirates, Dutch seafarers, traders, and rich people with posh estates to show off their wealth. No roads or tracks were included. If you were lost you asked at the local hostelry! Maps were rare, hand-drawn and painted, and often on vellum.

About 50 TADS members absorbed Gill's animated map-chat, with illustrations.

Maps weren't really viable until about the 15th century when they were easier to produce: better printing; decent paper; good engravers (Dutch at first); a period of peace and stability; and maritime expansion. But still no roads depicted....

Christopher Saxton, 1575-1579, did county maps which he surveyed from steeple to tower, hilltop to mountain. You had to assist him in his quest OR ELSE! He had an early form of copyright for 10 years so he could make cash on the side. Tadley was 'Tadlow' then, and there were no map keys or any roads shown yet. (Ask, if you are lost!)

Norden in 1607 was a good surveyor but lacked patronage. He showed your patch if he liked you. He thought roads would be good. Basingstoke is shown with a lower case ‘b’.

John Speede was an honest mapper. He copied Saxton and Norden in the early 17th century and did a town survey of Winchester showing the castle and city walls. His scale was measured in 'paces' (paces). But he put Southampton on the Isle of Wight in some editions because 'it created interest.....'

John Ogilby 1675, did ribbon maps and showed turnpikes. As a well-rounded man he had interests in theatre, Irish dancing, Latin, Greek and publishing etc. His attitudes were casual and he made and lost fortunes.

Robert Morden, 1701. A peaceful and prosperous time in England and this cartographer made maps with roads. Some local place names are spelled quite differently from now.

Thomas Kitchen's map 1755, was accurate, delightful and without ships and sea monsters! His maps reflected changes in Hampshire because of the Agrarian and Industrial Revolutions. Roads led to trading posts. He produced pocket maps 10"x8" (25cm x 20cm).

The Royal Society for Arts (RSA) offered a prize for a 1" to the mile map with a key, and this was won by Thomas Milne (1791). He showed a nuts and bolts monochrome of Hampshire, the County of Southampton and the Isle of Wight. Milne and Faden (1791) also sold 'pretty maps with keys, wells, canals, roads, and forests.

Soon single- sheet surveys sponsored by the Post Master General showed turnpikes, before the age of railways, 1791.

John Carey specialised in mapping the New Forest, 1820.

Gill didn't discuss Ordnance Survey (OS) maps but they can be seen in the Records Office and are functional not 'pretty' maps.

Being insular till nearly the 21st century, we thought the world revolved around us, as did every other country.... and the Germans and French laid claim to naming the North Sea as well!

Where to put all of Hampshire's precious and ancient maps? Gill said they have 2 dozen shipping containers with no place for their contents (plus the world's only remaining dress of Jane Austen). Rather sad to think some of Hampshire's heritage is stored thus and may go from paper to dust.....

Thanks, Gill for a truly tremendous talk; and perhaps eventually there'll be a museum for the 24 shipping containers.

Rosemary Bond.

What's on? Events which may be of interest

Hampshire Record Office *For information see*
www3.hants.gov.uk/whatson-hro or ring 01962846154

Milestones Museum

The museum has special events for children over the Spring Bank Holiday.
Tel. 01256 477766 for details or see: www3.hants.gov.uk/milestones/whatson

Willis Museum

The museum is running an ever changing series special exhibitions in the Sainsbury Gallery. Finishing on 21st May is an exhibition of paintings by Diana Stanley showing the town and surrounds before the 1960s developments.

Friends of the Willis Museum *(7.30pm at the museum)*

19th May: 'The Story of Heckfield Place' by Robert Louth.

Basingstoke Archaeological & History Society *(7.30 at Church Cottage)*

9th June: AGM followed by members' contributions

Paices Wood Country Park. 21st May 10am to 4 pm. Grand Opening Event for the new access road.

Iris Stanley's Archives - Iris left a mass of research information which her daughter has given to TADS. Among this were many volumes on Tadley family names. These files have been scanned so that David has been able to put them on the TADS website - see 'Names' at the bottom of the left hand list on the home page. For anyone with family connections in Tadley they will be extremely interesting, and very useful if you are researching your family's history.

Photos of Tadley. Recently added are some very interesting pictures of Tadley in the 1970s contributed by Barry Howard.

TADS annual membership is £12 per person.
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