



BEAULIEU HISTORY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Patron: Ailsa Montagu



No.7 September 2008

AUTUMN 2008 / SPRING 2009 PROGRAMME

Friday, 17 October at 6.30 p.m.

AGM and address by Ailsa Montagu on "Beaulieu and the Special Operations Executive".

Venue: Lecture Theatre

Friday, 28 November at 6.30 p.m.

"The History of the High Street", introduced by John Coles but lots of audience participation invited!

Venue: Village Hall

Friday, 16 January at 6.30 p.m.

Address by John Pemberton on "Ipley Manor and Beaulieu: A Long History".

Venue: Village Hall

Friday, 6 March at 6.30 p.m.

Address by Professor Roger Knight, Professor of Naval History at Greenwich Maritime Institute, on "Shipbuilding for the Navy in Four Wars 1739 to 1815: Buckler's Hard in Context".

Venue: Lecture Theatre

THE HISTORY OF BEUFRE

Enclosed with this edition of the newsletter you should find a transcript of the speech given by Clive Lester to the Beaulieu History Society at Beufre on Friday May 23rd 2008. I am certain that those members who were unable to attend will find it interesting and informative.

Friday, 17 October at 6.30 pm. John Montagu Lecture Theatre

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

AGENDA

- 1. Chairman's report**
- 2. Treasurer's report**
- 3. Secretary's report**
- 4. Adoption of constitution (draft text below)**
- 5. Election of officers: Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer**
- 6. Election of Committee**
- 7. Annual Subscription**
- 8. Appointment of Auditor**

ADDRESS

After the AGM, the Society's Patron, Ailsa Montagu, will give a talk on "Beaulieu and the Special Operations Executive".

Members: Free. New members welcome. Annual subscription £5 (£8 per couple).

BEAULIEU HISTORY SOCIETY: DRAFT CONSTITUTION

- 1. NAME:** The Society shall be called "The Beaulieu History Society".
- 2. AIMS:** The aims of the Society are: - to stimulate and increase interest in the history of Beaulieu and the surrounding area, to promote original research, to become a centre of information and publicity and to encourage the other advantages and benefits usually associated with a society.
- 3. MEMBERSHIP:** Membership is open to all interested in the aims of the Society. Any person shall be considered a member on payment of the annual subscription. A person shall cease to be a member of the Society if the Committee for good reason decide to remove his or her name from the list of members.
- 4. COMMITTEE AND OFFICERS:** The Society shall be administered by a Committee of not less than three members elected or re-elected by the members of the Society at each Annual General Meeting. The members at each Annual General Meeting shall in addition elect or re-elect a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, a Secretary and a Treasurer, all of whom shall *ex officio* be members of the Committee. The committee may co-opt any member of the Society to become a member of the Committee. Any member so co-opted will be eligible for election at the next Annual General Meeting.
- 5. NOTICES:** Not less than 14 days notice of each Annual General Meeting and of any Special Meeting shall be given to all members whose subscriptions for the preceding or current year have been paid in full.

6. SECRETARY: The duties of the Secretary shall be to record the proceedings of the Society and to report thereon at each Annual General Meeting, to conduct general correspondence, to issue all necessary notices of meetings, to preserve all books, papers and documents which are the property of the Society and generally to carry out the instructions of the Committee.

7. TREASURER: The duties of the Treasurer shall be to collect, receive and have custody of all subscriptions and other monies which may be payable to the Society and to pay out all such sums of money as may be authorised by the Committee. The Treasurer shall also keep an account of all funds received and expended and shall report thereon to the Committee from time to time and shall at each Annual General Meeting present a summary of receipts and payments during the preceding year to 31 August . An independent auditor shall be appointed at each Annual General Meeting.

8.ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE: No person who is not a member of the Society shall be eligible to hold office or to be a member of the Committee. The members of the Committee retiring at each Annual General Meeting shall be eligible for re-election. Any member of the Society may nominate a candidate for election to the Committee by giving to the Secretary at least 7 days before the date of the Annual General Meeting the name of that person accompanied by his or her written indication of willingness to stand for election. All proposals must be duly seconded by a member.

9.ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION: The annual subscription shall be fixed at each Annual General Meeting on the recommendation of the Committee or at a Special Meeting convened under rule 10 and shall be payable on joining and afterwards on 1 January in each year.

10. MEETINGS: The Annual General Meeting shall be held on or before 31 December in each calendar year. Ordinary meetings of members shall normally be held not less than four times a year. Special meetings of members may be called by the Committee or at the request of 6 members for the purpose only of dealing with the special business stated in the notice convening the Special Meeting. The Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson shall preside at all meetings. If both are absent, members present shall elect a Chairperson. The Chairperson shall have a casting vote.

11. QUORUM: At the Annual General Meeting four, and at any Special Meeting eight, ordinary members other than members of the Committee shall be a quorum. At Committee meetings three, of whom one shall be an Officer, shall be a quorum.

12. NON-MEMBERS: The Committee may decide to permit the attendance of non-members at a particular meeting and may fix a fee for such attendance.

13. ALTERATION OF RULES: No alteration of these Rules shall be made except at the Annual General Meeting, or at any Special Meeting convened for that purpose, after notice duly given to the Secretary at least 28 days before the date of the meeting. The votes of two thirds of the membership present and voting shall be required for the approval of any alteration to these Rules.

SUBSCRIPTIONS 2009

Dear Member,

We have decided to request members to pay subscriptions by Standing Order if at all possible and would be pleased if you would give your bank the following details so they can arrange accordingly:-

A/C Name: THE BEAULIEU HISTORY SOCIETY

Bank: BARCLAYS, HIGH STREET, LYMINGTON

A/C No.: 90157031

Sort Code: 20— 53— 53

Due Date: JANUARY 2009

Thank You

David Matcham [Treasurer]

Friday, 28 November, 6.30pm. Village Hall

THE HISTORY OF BEAULIEU HIGH STREET

Our High Street has a long and fascinating history. At this meeting we plan to put together as much of this history as we can. John Coles (Chair) will summarise what is known of each building from readily available sources. Maps and photographs will be displayed. But we hope that those who can, will correct and add to this account from their own knowledge of Beaulieu. Facts, memories and stories will be most welcome. We plan, in the light of the discussion, to produce a detailed booklet on the history of the High Street which will be available to members for a nominal sum.

Throughout, we shall respect the privacy of the occupants of houses and other premises in the street.

Come and help us make history!

Members: Free. New members are welcome. Annual subscription £5 (£8 per couple).

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO — BEAULIEU IN 1908

[Newspaper cuttings]

...A large company assembled at the Montagu Barn on Saturday for the opening of the new rifle range. Under the personal supervision of the Hon. Sec., Colonel Jerrard, the enlargement of the barn and the fixing of the range has been completed. Mr. Wadley, Lord Montagu's electrical engineer, undertook the installation of the electric light. Lord Montagu in a speech declaring the range open, said he trusted the club would, not only be of great use but also a means of wholesome recreation during the long winter evenings. In the absence of Lady Montagu the first shot was fired by the Hon. Miss Montagu. *[Hampshire Advertiser January 11th]*

...Mr J. Turner-Turner entertained the workmen engaged in building his new house, Abbot's Spring, to supper at the Montagu Arms on Thursday. The company numbered nearly 40. An excellent repast was served by Host and Hostess Foakes. *[Hampshire Advertiser February 15th]*

...Lord Montagu has intimated that, owing to the legislation proposals before Parliament with regard to education, he is giving notice to the managers of the Beaulieu and Beaulieu Park schools under his ownership to terminate their agreements, with the intention, if the Bill becomes law, of resuming possession of the school buildings. He states that as these schools were built by his predecessors as Church of England schools, he could not submit to their being appropriated by the State under the conditions laid down by the Bill before Parliament. *[Lymington and South Hants Chronicle April 2nd 1908]*

...The Vicar announced that a triptych would shortly be placed above the altar in memory of the late Lord Montagu, the subjects being "The Crucifixion", "The Nativity", and "The Resurrection". *[Hampshire Independent April 25th 1908]*

...The Annual meeting of the Tennis and Croquet Club was held in the Parish Hall on Friday evening, Mr. G.H. Morgan presiding. *[Hampshire Advertiser May 13th]*

...The Beaulieu Band (conductor Mr. T. Gregory) gave a capital programme in the High Street on Tuesday evening. *[Hampshire Advertiser June 6th]* [These concerts were a regular feature, often weekly]

...The New Forest Automobile Club and Hampshire Motor Union will hold a hill-climbing competition today (Saturday) at Hill Top, Beaulieu. *[Hampshire Advertiser June 27th]*

... Mr. Edmund Gosse, the famous litterateur, who is also librarian to the House of Lords, is about to take up residence in the New Forest having acquired a site for a house from Lord Montagu of Beaulieu. *[Hampshire Advertiser September 5th]* [He was destined to become an active member of Beaulieu Clubs]

...Arrangements have been made for the re-opening of the miniature rifle range for practice on Wednesday evening next. *[Hampshire Advertiser October 10th]* [So presumably the club only operated Autumn — Spring]

...In connexion with the appeal or funds on behalf of the T. S. Mercury, Messrs H.C.Foakes, J.W. Nash Brown and W.E.Winsey have consented to receive subscriptions. Lord Montagu is one of the patrons and it is hoped the inhabitants of Beaulieu will give generously to so worthy an object. *[Hampshire Independent November 14th 1908]* [C.B.Fry was Commander of the Training Ship Mercury and one wonders if there was some connexion between this and C.B. playing for Beaulieu earlier in the year — Ed.]

...The Hygienic Dairy Society of London will shortly open, at the Home Farm, a depot where milk will be pasteurised and sterilised by plant of the latest type. The buildings at the Home Farm lend themselves especially to the work, possessing, as they already do, a 7 h.p. electric motor. Several farmers on the manor have already contracted to deliver milk, and it is hoped that the locality will be benefited by the scheme, and that impetus will be given to dairy farmers in the district. The milk brought to the depot directly from the cow will be centrifugally cleansed and bottled by special plant, or separated for cream. It is hoped that the concern will be made co-operative. [*Hampshire Advertiser December 12th*]

A Walk around Beaulieu Church (4)

The Sanctuary Lamp

Visitors to Beaulieu Church will see a large silver lamp suspended from one of the cross-members of the roof. The lamp, the Sanctuary Lamp, remains lit at all times, now by a light bulb, but I remember in the 1960s the light was produced by a candle which I periodically had to relight.

The Sanctuary lamp was presented to the church by Henry, 1st Baron Montagu of Beaulieu and his wife Lady Cecily in 1889 in gratitude for their safe return to Beaulieu after eight months away, the absence due to Lord Henry's recuperation from what was believed to be a chest complaint.

The Sanctuary Lamp



THE FRY FAMILY

Those of a sporting persuasion will have heard the name of Charles Burgess Fry [C.B.Fry], probably one of the greatest all-round sportsmen of his and every other generation. Not only did he represent, and captain, England at cricket, but he also played soccer for England, as well as representing Southampton in the F.A.Cup Final of 1902. He was also offered the monarchy of Albania, and held the world long jump record for 20 years.

The Training Ship 'Mercury' was founded on the south coast of England in 1885 by Charles Hoare. The ship was one of many used to give boys sea training. In 1892 the 'Mercury' was moved to the River Hamble and until his death in 1908 was run by Charles Hoare. On his death, the 'helm' of the 'Mercury' was taken over by his friend, the famous scholar and cricketer Charles Burgess Fry. Beatrice Holme Sumner had helped Charles Hoare found the school and had worked alongside him throughout those early years. CB had in fact been married to Beatrice Holme Sumner since 1898. As a result, CB and Beatrice ran the school from then on with Beatrice taking a prominent role until her death in 1946. (CB died in 1956).

There have been connections between the Fry family and Beaulieu which lasted until the 1960s. 1898 and 1899 saw Beaulieu Cricket Club visiting the Training Ship Mercury and playing a team of which C.B.Fry and other County players took part. In the visit of 1898, Beaulieu were successful. The visit in 1899 was not so successful. The *New Forest Magazine* for November 1898 records the Annual General Meeting of the Beaulieu Cricket Club together with a reference to the first visit.

BEAULIEU.

Clergy :—R. F. Powles, Vicar, The Curia.
J. H. Thompson, Hill Top House.

Churchwardens :—Lord Montagu of Beaulieu; Mr. W. H. Winsey.

CHURCH SERVICES.

SUNDAYS: Holy Communion, 1st Sunday, 8, and 11.45
2nd .. 8, and at Park, 11
3rd .. 7, and 10.0
4th .. 8, and at Buckler's Hard, 8.0
5th .. 8.0

Matins, 11; Evensong, 6. Evensong at Park, 8.0.
Saints' Days and Thursdays, Matins 7.30. Holy Communion 9.0. Evensong on
Saints' Days only at 7.0
Daily Matins 9.0. Evensong 4.0.

Nov. 1st—All Saints. Holy Communion, 8.0 and 11.0.
.. 13th—Holy Communion at Park, 11.0.
.. 27th—Holy Communion at Bucklers Hard, 8.0.
.. 30th—St. Andrew. Holy Communion 8.0 and 11.0

The annual sale of cheap and useful clothing will take place on Friday, December 9th, at 2 o'clock, there will be a few fancy articles. Any presents of clothing or material will be very acceptable and will be received at any time by the Vicar.

BEAULIEU CRICKET CLUB. The annual Cricket Dinner took place on Sept. 28th at the "Montagu Arms," when a goodly number of members and friends spent a pleasant evening together. The Captain (Mr. R. H. Pemberton) was in the chair and the Rev. R. F. Powles and the Rev. J. Culey, Vicar of East Boldre were also present. After the usual loyal and other toasts, the secretary (Mr. C. J. Judd) gave a short account of the season's play which has been fairly successful, although not quite so good as last year. Out of 9 matches played, 6 were won and 4 lost, as against 8 won and 1 lost last year. The Captain headed the batting averages with an average of 25 and the Vice Captain (Mr. H. B. Dyke) the bowling averages with an average of 9. Mr. E. Paynes' average for bowling is 11, and considering that he and Mr. Dyke have borne the brunt of the season's work against strong batting sides, these figures are good. We want a couple of reliable change bowlers badly. The finances of the club are in a good state, and a very fair balance will remain in hand after all liabilities are paid. The Secretary called for a hearty vote of thanks to the Honorary Members, who so kindly, year after year, subscribe to the clubs' funds, without their valuable help the club could not flourish as it does. All that is wanted is some young talent, to take the places of those who retire. We have had some very pleasant games during the season, the match against the "T. S. Mercury" at Hamble being especially so. We met a very strong team which included Messrs. Ward and Robson of County fame and Mr. C. B. Fry of Sussex, but thanks to a fine innings of 89 not out by our Captain we succeeded in winning by 24 runs. Captain Hoare was exceedingly kind and hospitable, and those members who were fortunate enough to make the trip will not readily forget it. We hope to go again next season. The business part of the proceedings being over, songs were rendered by several of the members present, a very pleasant evening concluding with "Auld Lang Syne" and God save the Queen.

Lieutenant Commander (Berkeley Holme) Sumner, from Fernycroft was the brother-in-law of C.B.Fry, and was himself a keen cricketer. He was captain of Beaulieu Cricket Club in 1907 and also played in 1908 but seemingly left the district as no future references exist. It was during this time that cricket matches were apparently again played between Beaulieu C.C. and T.S.Mercury, on these occasions Beaulieu hosting CB Fry's side.

I recall George Hendeley telling me that he remembered when C.B.Fry brought a team to Beaulieu but he was too young to play. Jack Tupper also recalled that on one occasion C.B.Fry scored a century for Hampshire then came to Beaulieu and scored a duck. He also remembered C.B.Fry hitting a ball into the mill pond. I suspect that this was the pond next to the vicarage. Unfortunately I have, as yet, been unable to locate scorecards of these matches, assuming that they still exist.

However, I have recently unearthed a newspaper report from the *Hampshire Independent* for Saturday June 6th 1908 of a match when C.B. Fry played *for* and not *against* Beaulieu in a home match. The report reads...

‘Considerable interest was evidenced in the Beaulieu fixture on Saturday, partly from the fact that the well-known amateur C.B. Fry was assisting the home club and that the Deanery Club had not been met for some years. There was a large ring of spectators who saw the visitors total 53 runs against some good bowling from Fry and Abraham. On the home team proceeding to the wickets Jarvis and Young seemed likely to carry all before them, so well did they bowl, the former obtaining four wickets and Young five for 40. Mr Fry played admirable cricket until the Deanery total was passed, and was ninth out with 58 runs, the total being 90.’

C.B. Fry played for Trojans, also against Deanery, the following Saturday and scored 149. How Deanery must have been thoroughly fed up with C.B.! Deanery and Trojans were two of the top Southampton sides of the time.

Jonathan Fry tells me that he remembers his grandfather coming to a Beaulieu cricket match as a spectator in the 1950s, but didn't mention whether he had played there in his cricketing days. This is not perhaps surprising as he was then over 80 and could well have forgotten. [*See photograph later*]

C.B.Fry's son, Stephen, was also an accomplished cricketer and represented Hampshire. He took over the running of the Master Builders Hotel with his wife in 1950. Miss Sybil Hoare, the daughter of Charles Hoare accompanied them and was also involved in the Hotel. [*Beatrice Holme-Sumner had a relationship with Charles Hoare for fifteen years and bore him two children, one of whom was Sybil, before meeting and marrying C.B.Fry*]. Stephen became involved with Beaulieu Cricket Club, being appointed Vice-Chairman then Chairman of the Club until he left the district in 1960. Sybil Hoare carried on running the Master Builders Hotel for a short while, but it was too much for her, and she soon joined Stephen Fry and his wife at their house in London.

Walter Elsworth remembers the time he ran Stephen out, off a no-ball, in a match at Boldre, and he wasn't best pleased! His two sons, Charles and Jonathan played cricket for Beaulieu in the 1950s and it was obvious from their performances that they were also good cricketers. The Secretary's report for 1955, which lists the averages, shows Charles Fry leading the batting averages with 40.2 [the next was 16.7!]. Charles scored the highest innings of 77 not out and took part in the highest partnership of 109 with J. Guy. Jonathan Fry was top of the bowling averages with an average of 5 runs per wicket, though he in fact only took 15 wickets. Jo Phillips who took 70 wickets at an average of 5.13 was next.

Charles has recalled to me the times that he and his brother were coached by Chris Martin on the green at Bucklers Hard. Charles went on to play cricket for Hampshire and Northamptonshire and is the present Chairman of the M.C.C.

There is an embroidered kneeler in Bucklers Hard Chapel with the inscription 1863 B F 1946 and below, T S Mercury. The initials refer to Beatrice Fry, wife of C.B. Fry, and the dates were that of her birth and death. This was placed there by Sybil in memory of her mother.

Charles has sent me a copy of a photograph of him, his brother and their grandfather, C.B. and where was it taken? — Beaulieu of course. The photograph was taken in 1952 when C.B. was 80. He died in 1956.



Photograph taken at Beaulieu in 1952, the Annex to Palace Lane Cottage (then thatched) can be seen in the background. From left to right: Jonathan Fry, C.B.Fry, Charles Fry.

Should you wish to have an electronic copy of this newsletter please e-mail me at t.norris@forest.wokingham.sch.uk and I will attach a copy. If you know of any Beaulieu people, now living away, please feel free to e-mail them a copy. Should you wish to have subsequent editions e-mailed, please let me know. I will be including old photographs and documents which do not reproduce well under a photocopier, in the e-mail edition. *A.C.Norris, The Malt House, High Street, Beaulieu S042 7YA*

Ramblings of a Sixties Childhood in Beaulieu. (Part2)

by Nigel Bryant

As most readers are probably aware Beaulieu is surrounded by old military installations and some have been the source of interesting childhood "memories" for example there was an Army training camp near Beaulieu Road Station (exact location to remain secret!!) which is quite difficult to reach due to the proximity of bogs however myself and two chums used to play there and one day we found what looked like a bomb. It was approx 12" long and had tail fins. We transported the device back to Beaulieu in the saddlebag on my bike and proceeded to call the police via 999 from the telephone box located by the village school. Shortly afterwards PC Parker arrives and proceeds to give us what could only be called a severe ticking off after which he escorts us back to the scene of our discovery. He explains that it was not a bomb but an empty smoke bomb and he threw it into the bog. Just as he was leaving I asked him if he wanted to see a box of unused 303 bullets we had found, by this time I was getting used to his 'ticking off' as another one was just about to come in my direction. Yet again he threw the box into the bog and we watched it sink out of site.

Also as a young lad I can remember the Aerodrome being pretty much complete with its large hangers, outbuildings and of course long runway. There is a place in Beaulieu called the 'Rocks' and close by are three large holes which as a child I was told they were in fact bomb craters, firstly I do not know how why the area was called the 'Rocks' as I cannot recollect any actual rocks and secondly I cannot verify the cause of the holes but as a kid I liked the thought of bombs landing close to the village!

Beaulieu also had several 'pill boxes' or machine gun posts as well as three large air raid shelters. The machine gun posts were located opposite the entrance to the mill, we called this one the 'block house' and the second one was located opposite the old Power Station. (more about the Power Station later). The air raid shelters were located at the back of the village the school near Taylers Close and although the doors were kept locked you could climb onto the roofs and enter via a vertical ladder.

Taylers Close, now there is a source of childhood memories. The owner was Mrs Davies, and my friend Robert Jenkin and I used to do odd jobs for her such as general gardening but mainly mowing the lawns with her motorised lawn mower. One of the lawns would become a croquet lawn in summer so we would also play a game or two of croquet, however working at Taylers Close was not without risk as Mrs Davies had a pet swan called Pepi which seemed to have a built in fear detector and would charge towards you wings flapping and hissing, whereby we would run and excite the swan even more. However Mrs Davies would just say "ignore it and it won't chase you", yeah right! Mrs Davies also kept Peacocks and Chinese Geese, the latter being more vicious than the Swan!

Earlier in the article I mentioned the Power Station, which was located just before the new fire station. As my father was in the fire brigade I would spend a lot of time with him at the fire station and was allowed to go next door to visit the Power Station under the watchful eye of Ted Biddlecombe who worked there. My memories of the power station are 'foggy' but I can remember some large wheels and a building at the back full of large 'carboys' containing acid. And now for my quiz: (all related to the 60s)

1. Where was the Doctors surgery?
2. Where was the newsagents?
3. Who was the village barber?
4. What night did the Fish and Chip van visit the village?

Answers in the next issue.



Three of the men who had strong influence on my childhood: 1 to r Walt Elsworth, Harold Bryant and Ron Hendy. (*the very least they taught me was how to hold a wine glass!*)

I am sure that not many of the current residents of Beaulieu realise that there was actually a farm in the middle of the village, the entrance is located just past Pondsides Flats but before the High Street. As a child to have your own farmyard to play in was terrific, plus rides on tractor (with Bob Mathews), helping with the daily milking including driving the cows from the fields to the milking parlour. I also remember each year my mother being given some of the 'black treacle' that was used to cover the silage pits and she used it for cooking!

Most residents were 'self sufficient' regarding food (vegetables and fruit) and had large gardens (we had two gardens, the second of which is now part of the by-pass) plus there were also very well tended and productive allotments located in the area that is now the school playing fields.



The author : Nigel Bryant (when hair was still in fashion and an option!)

THE BEAULIEU FILM CLUB

There have been recent moves to form a Beaulieu Film Club... should it really be re-form? For, in July 1922 Lord Montagu started a cinema. Below are the contents of a newspaper cutting from July 25th 1922.

The new cinema was opened on Saturday, invitations being extended to the residents to witness the first performance. Lord Montagu's enterprise in the matter is much appreciated, and the performances will no doubt be well supported, the film shown was a colour production, "The Glorious Adventure", in which a number of artistes who are working on another film which is being made at Beaulieu, appeared'.

Beaulieu Church 1844 [from an engraving on steel]



S. E. VIEW OF THE CHURCH, BEAULIEU, HANTS.

Drunk in charge...

Hythe Petty Sessions May 2nd 1863

John Wort, a labourer, was charged with being drunk at Beaulieu, on the 24th ultimo. Police constable Holloway, stationed at Beaulieu, saw the defendant go through that place with a waggon and team of horses, very drunk and scarcely able to walk. Defendant denied being drunk, and stated that his master said he was quite right when he got home. He was fined 5s and costs.

[Hampshire Advertiser May 2nd 1863]