

## Celebrating our **Heritage**, Enhancing our **Environment**, Shaping our **Future**

Salisbury is a vibrant cathedral city, surrounded by the beautiful countryside and villages of South Wiltshire. People visit it or decide to live here because it is a welcoming community, working and trading in a marvellous historic setting. The challenges today are to maintain those attractive qualities and yet accommodate ongoing changes in population, lifestyle, and the economy.

The Salisbury Civic Society, founded in 1960, works to promote high standards of contemporary design in all aspects of the built environment within Salisbury and South Wiltshire, whilst safeguarding the historic buildings and landscape setting underpinning the area's special character.

Over the years, the role of the Society has expanded. Today, it is not only the principal local organisation and guardian for the built environment, but also celebrates and promotes the area's rich heritage & cultural life through a stimulating programme of activities.

Salisbury falls under two authorities, created in 2009, Salisbury City Council and Wiltshire Council. We are able to contribute effectively in many areas and are represented on several groups including the Salisbury Conservation Advisory Panel. We also have a good working relationship with Wiltshire Council, Salisbury City Council and Campaign to Protect Rural England. As a non-political organisation, the Society tries to maintain an independent stance on all matters.

Through a series of awards, talks, forums, open meetings, visits and our website we promote and provide information on the architecture, history and geography of the area.

Amongst the many activities of the Society we:

- ☐ Monitor and constructively comment on planning applications and development proposals
- ☐ Run an active and stimulating programme of events for members and the public
- ☐ Publish a quarterly magazine for members
- ☐ Maintain our support for the projects promoted by the former Salisbury Vision
- ☐ Protect and celebrate the traditional chequer names
- ☐ Run a prestigious new buildings and conservation awards scheme
- ☐ Organise the annual Salisbury Historic Open Days and the Salisbury Blue Plaques scheme celebrating our outstanding built environment and heritage
- ☐ Promote the economic vitality of the region

Our aims:

- ☐ To celebrate & commemorate the area's rich heritage & cultural life
- ☐ To enhance & protect the built environment & landscape setting of the area
- ☐ To encourage & promote high standards of design, management & maintenance
- ☐ To provide a stimulating programme of activities for our members.

We welcome new members of all ages and backgrounds.

## DIARY of EVENTS 2017/2018

### Thursday 21st September **THE SECRET GARDEN**

by Becky Twigg  
6.30 pm Methodist Church, St Edmund's Church Street, Salisbury SP1 1EF  
Free to members: Non members £2.50

### Tuesday 21st November **OPEN MEETING**

The Maltings Redevelopment  
6.30 pm Alamein Suite, City Hall, Malthouse Lane, Salisbury SP2 7TU  
Open to all

## 2018

### Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January **NEW YEAR PARTY AND ANNUAL AWARDS PRESENTATION**

Guildhall, Salisbury SP1 1JH  
Application forms will be in the December magazine

### Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March **THE QUAKERS IN SALISBURY**

by Rosalind Johnson  
6.30 pm Methodist Church, St Edmund's Church Street, Salisbury SP1 1EF  
Free to members: Non members £2.50

*Cover illustration: The Faulston Dovecote , Bishopstone (p.2).*

*Photos in this issue: James Woods, Richard Deane*

### April (date tbc) **PLANNING FORUM**

6.30 pm Methodist Church, St Edmund's Church Street, Salisbury SP1 1EF  
Free to members: Non members £2.50

### Wednesday June 6<sup>th</sup> **AGM**, followed by a talk on Suburban Salisbury, by Hadrian Cook

6.30 pm Methodist Church, St Edmund's Church Street, Salisbury SP1 1EF

### June (date tbc) Back by popular demand, another visit to **NORRINGTON MANOR**

See June 2017 magazine for details of how to book for visits

## A Warm Welcome to our New Members

We are delighted to welcome the following to the Society:

Arundells, David and Heather Balston, Tim and Cathy Brown, Bruce and Jane Court, Ed Esdon, Shirley Evans, Oliver Gale, Rory and Mira Guinness, Phil Harding, Graham and Christine Jagger, Brian Munday, Patricia Phillips, John and Val Potter, Dan Roycroft, Barrie and Cary Sinclair-Kemp, Stephen Sykes and Josephine Ings, Peter and Patricia van Os, Denis and Barbara Watson, Jamie Wright, Jillian Wright.



## EDITORIAL

This issue of the magazine has been produced on the same basis as the two previous ones, with an editorial co-ordinator rather than an editor outright. The June issue contained the good news that an editor had finally been found, in the person of Society member John Elliott, but unfortunately John has had to stand down from taking on the role for the September issue for health reasons. So the previous pattern has been reverted to, with the significant difference that rather than Salisbury Printing taking on the layout and graphic work, this has been done by member Hugh Synge. Hugh has experience of producing small magazines in the past, and kindly stepped into the breach when John had to withdraw.

As usual, the material within is a mix of looking ahead to future events, reviewing past ones, updates on planning cases, and the odd piece which steps back a bit from the here and now. Into that category falls my own contribution on the multi-faceted pronunciation possibilities of the name 'Caen', only loosely tied to any definition of the Society's remit. In more orthodox terrain, Civic Day on June 17th was a major event from the Society's perspective, and it is of course covered here. The effort that went into it was considerable, but amply rewarded by something which all who experienced it seem to have regarded as a definite success, with a very positive feel inside the Guildhall while it was on. Some excellent posters were produced, some at least of which will be used again for the Open Meeting in November, probably but not absolutely definitely on the Maltings

project. Page 24 has an explanation of why there's still an element of uncertainty about the topic.

One of several new members who joined as a result of Civic Day is Oliver Gale, who at 14 can reliably be described as the Society's youngest member, probably by the proverbial country mile. We're delighted that Oliver has given his own perspective on one aspect of the current search for further housing sites, which appears alongside Elaine Milton's account of that whole process on page 5.

The cover photograph shows Faulston Dovecote at Bishopstone, one of the many buildings which have won awards or commendations from the Society's awards scheme since its inception in 1993. Its use here reflects the topic for this year's AGM talk, as described by Judy Howles on page 10. A medley of other winning buildings appears on the centre page spread. Stone boxes in the dovecote's internal walls attest to the accuracy of that description for it, but some external features, in particular the blocked doorway, suggest some more complicated history. The listings description (it's Grade II\*) says 'according to local legend and John Aubrey there were once four such towers around the moated Faulston House, but this has not been substantiated'. A challenge for some historian or archaeologist in our ranks, perhaps? There may not be that many of the latter (but see the welcome to new members box...).

**Richard Deane**  
*Magazine co-ordinator*

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

### Drawn from AGM Address to members

I hope all are enjoying the summer and welcome to you all and thank you for attending on such a warm summer's evening with many other distractions!

Our thoughts are now very much with the families of those affected by the Grenfell Tower disaster earlier today in North West London and I am sure we would all wish to remember them in our prayers.

I will keep my report brief and enable us to pass through the formal business and then you can relax and enjoy Richard Deane's talk on the 'History of the Civic Society Awards Scheme'.

So much happens during 12 months that this address is only a very small reference to some of the many activities of the Society, but first I must mention that the proposed adoption of the new Constitution for the Civic Society will not formally take place tonight, even though it is shown on the agenda. Following recent consultations with the Charity Commission it would appear that some further changes are required to our new draft Constitution and it would not be possible to make those changes, circulate the new version and have suitable notice period in advance of the AGM.

In essence, the Charity Commission feel that our existing Objects are more in line with the charitable aims of the Society and therefore we shall probably retain them as existing with some minor amendments only. In due course, a

revised version of a new Constitution will be circulated for comment and ultimately be proposed for adoption formally at next year's AGM.

It has been another busy year with various talks and lectures, activities, and involvement with various outside groups. The Development Committee has continued to engage with various promoters of new developments such as the Quantum Group who are developing the Old Manor Hospital site, and recently McCarthy & Stone who propose to build retirement and assisted living apartments in Castle Street and Endless Street.

Both organisations have presented their ideas and architecture to the Development Committee, and took away feedback suggestions on how they might improve on their initial concepts. Some comments have been taken on board, particularly with regard to McCarthy & Stone's first design approach, though on the Old Manor Hospital site the Society still has major reservations.

It is sad these days that most Planning Applications are determined with only limited attention to architectural detailing and materials, and it is good that our Civic Society does, to some extent, have its voice listened to, and that we take a keen interest in making observations.

On that topic, but not exclusively down to us in the Civic Society, Wiltshire Council have rejected the idea of housing

development on the Britford Lane fields. They are outside the housing allocation plans for Wiltshire Council and that is great news. However, we must all remain vigilant in case the owners, the Longford Estate and St Nicholas Hospital, decide to challenge the Wiltshire decision, and this might occur during the public enquiry which will follow next year. I am delighted that the Civic Society with other lobby groups have succeeded in their efforts.

The first Salisbury "Civic Day" is on Saturday, 17th June 2017 starting at 10am at the Guildhall. We have brought together many local groups representative of Civic life and activities in and around Salisbury and Mr John Glen, our recently re-elected MP, will open proceedings with an address at 10.30am. I hope you will all come along to support the day, even if it is just for a short while. (Post AGM / Civic Day note: over 300 people attended and the day was a great success!)

I would like to welcome all new members to the Society and I do hope you have enjoyed participating thus far in our activities. The Society has much to offer, but please do not hesitate to make your own ideas and suggestions known if you feel so inclined. We welcome in particular a new corporate member, Woolley & Wallis Salisbury Salerooms, and we thank them for sponsoring the publicity leaflets associated with the Civic Day on Saturday.

We also look forward to the Heritage Open Days in early September 2017

running from the 7th September when we will be unveiling the Civic Society plaque at the Rai D'Or public house on Brown Street to commemorate Agnes Bottenham, who was an owner of that property and was founder of Trinity Hospital. Phil Harding, a notable archaeologist and now Deputy Lord Lieutenant for Wiltshire, will be our guest of honour for the unveiling. On the subsequent days for the Heritage Open Days Weekend, we are working in association with CAMRA on a wide variety of programmes focusing on the historic pubs and inns of Salisbury, their history, architecture and much else beside. If you look up the recent quarterly magazine, you will see all of the details on offer.

Later in the proceedings this evening we shall elect our various Officers and Committee chairmen but we are still looking for a volunteer to take on the role of the Society Secretary. (Post AGM Note: I am delighted to announce Barrie Sinclair-Kemp has agreed to take on the post of Secretary as a new joining Member together with his wife Cary.)

Finally, I would like to thank all of you who participate in the organisation of events and serve on our Committees to give the members of the Civic Society such a wide variety of programmes and activities.

Thank you for your support of the Civic Society.

**Peter Dunbar**

## Old Sarum – Old or New?

Although I am only 14, I can remember coming along the A345, down the hill from High Post towards Old Sarum without seeing any houses, all you could see was the Cathedral poking out over the hill and the city hidden behind it. But now, only in the last two years, that view has changed, dramatically; 673 houses are now being built at Old Sarum, most of which can be seen from the road. Not only is it a shame for people travelling in that direction who no longer have the magnificent uninterrupted view, it must also feel very different for those living in Longhedge House (a listed building), opposite the new development.

The houses are not only visible from the road but also from Old Sarum castle, and I feel they ruin the ancient roman view of Salisbury Plain. I was studying Wiltshire Council's Housing Allocation Plan and noticed that some proposed sites, that had been dismissed as they would have gone through a conservation area, would have joined the Old Sarum development

to Ford, to Bishopdown and the northerly tip of Salisbury, which would have been just awful!

I must admit I find the name of the 'new' Old Sarum a little frustrating. The true Old Sarum is the old original Salisbury settlement, and I feel it is a shame that it has to share its name with a new housing development (this partly originates from Old Sarum Airfield which the industrial area took the name of and now the much larger housing area). I know that if someone said: "I live in Old Sarum", they mean the new one, however if someone said, "I'm going to Old Sarum", you could quite easily get confused. I still think that the new estate's name should be changed, or at least not let it get any bigger, because we should respect the heritage and history of Salisbury and not dilute its significance. Added to which, it now means that New Sarum is older than Old Sarum.

**Oliver Gale**

## Draft Wiltshire Housing Site Allocations Plan

This long awaited document has finally been published by Wiltshire Council and is open for comments now until the 22nd September 2017.

By law the Government requires every Council to produce planning documents which allocate enough land to allow the building of homes to meet the area needed for housing objectively assessed on a rolling five-year basis. The document,

which sets this out forms part of the planning policy framework against which future planning applications will be assessed and is known as a development plan document (DPD). The DPD is organised into the Council's community areas, with the Salisbury Community Area covering the settlements of Salisbury and Wilton. Initially 74 strategic housing land availability assessment ('SHLAA') sites

were considered in and around Salisbury. These are sites put forward by landowners and third parties to the Council. One of these was Britford Lane, which the DPD confirms was rejected after the first stage of consideration due to its perceived lack of sustainability when evaluated against a set of objective criteria. Only four SHLAA sites are now being proposed for the Salisbury area, potentially providing around 850 new homes. Three of these were on the initial list, namely Hilltop Way (approximately 10 houses), land at Netherhampton Road (approximately 640 houses), and Land at Rowbarrow, Odstock Road (approximately 100 houses). One site not on the original list has been added, North of Netherhampton Road (approximately 100 houses). The Civic Society will make representations on the proposed sites, a summary of which will be provided within a future Quarterly. At this stage it is likely the site North of Netherhampton Road could be considered contentious due to the potential impact of housing on the important landscape setting of the City.

While Britford Lane is no longer being put forward by this plan, this may not be the

end of the matter: The owners may decide to submit representations in a bid to have the site reinstated into the plan. It is perfectly within their rights to do so, as would be the submission of an application for the site for planning permission.

Following the consultation, the Council will consider the comments received before submitting the draft DPD and supporting evidence to the Secretary of State for examination. All comments received during the consultation will be passed on to the appointed independent Planning Inspector at that stage. The inspector has a duty to consider whether the plan has been prepared legally and on a sound basis, as prescribed by the Planning regulations. The current timetable on the Wiltshire Council website indicates submission and examination of the DPD in Spring 2018, with adoption in Winter 2018.

*Any member wishing to submit individual comments can do so via <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/planninganddevelopment/planningpolicy/wiltshgsgsiteallocationsplan.htm>*

**Elaine Milton**

## Civic Day in the Guildhall

Salisbury Civic Society supported and organised our first ever Civic Day on Saturday 17th June. This was part of the 2017 National Civic Day programme, sponsored by Civic Voice. The event, which had an exhibition format, was opened by John Glen MP (Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Department for Culture, Media and Sport) and there was a talk at mid-day from

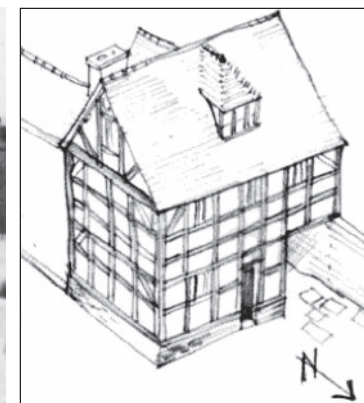
Robin McGowan of Salisbury Business Improvement District; these contributions perfectly set the tone for the day. We counted over 300 participants, many of whom spent considerable time looking at the displays, talking and networking (photos on back cover). The exhibitors in particular welcomed the rare opportunity to meet each other and discuss areas of common interest, and possible future



*Above, No 47 Blue Boar Row in 1838 (central building) and (right) how the 17th C building at the rear might have looked.*

collaboration. Stephanie Siddons Deighton added additional colour to the day by procuring and distributing yellow helium filled balloons outside. Woolley & Wallis Salisbury Salerooms, who are now corporate members of the Society, generously sponsored publicity for the event.

The day was themed on heritage and open spaces, with the list of contributing organisations, 16 in total in addition to the Society, ranging from the Salisbury Museum to local environmental and building conservation groups, archaeology and local history groups. There was an architect's surgery, courtesy of Paul Stevens. The central part of the Banqueting Hall was taken up with a display showing the full range of the Society's activities with attractive images focusing on the awards scheme (originally produced for an exhibition outside Waitrose last September). Several new displays were designed specifically for Civic Day. For example, four explained what conservation areas are about, and



there was a map showing the locations of the 72 conservation areas in the Society's district.

Three posters dealt with the Salisbury gasometer, including the image used on the front cover of the June magazine. Four covered activities undertaken by the Society's General Purposes Committee – talks, visits, plaques and Heritage Open Days. There was a poster telling the story of the new sheep above 51 High Street, one dealing with the Society's vetting of planning applications, and one covering open meetings, focusing on public art and the Maltings. One set out the Society's position on the Britford Lane fields, and there was one produced by Gerald Steer, a local architect with a longer connection to the Society than most, having been a stalwart of its predecessor body, the Salisbury and District Preservation Trust. This dealt with a fascinating 17thC building, in very poor condition at the back of 47 Blue Boar Row. It is now the property of the City Council, and the Society will be trying to encourage that body to make the most of it.

We combined our poster exhibition with an animated screen display featuring the



conservation areas of Salisbury and South Wiltshire. The display was arranged as a tour starting in The Close and moving through a selection of 20 listed buildings in Salisbury as well as a further 14 buildings in 12 outlying villages. The tour provided a synopsis of the rich and varied

heritage of Salisbury and its neighbourhood. The selection of pictures reached from Mere in the West, to Newton Tony in the East.

The leaflet publicising the event contained a competition relating to the national theme of this year's Civic Day –

### ***Below, the prize competition***

#### PRIZE COMPETITION

**How well do you know the Salisbury Conservation Area?**

For the chance to win one of three prizes, simply match the images to the locations marked on the map below.

1st prize	£50
2nd prize	Copy of 'Salisbury in Detail'
3rd prize	One year's membership of Salisbury Civic Society

Once you have entered the view location letters in the grid on the entry form, fill in your name and contact details and take your entry to the Civic Day event at the Guildhall.

Post your entry form in the box at the conservation area exhibition.

Conservation Areas. The competition required entrants to match eight photographic views within the City of Salisbury Conservation Area to locations marked on a map of the designated area. Three winners were drawn at random from the almost 40 correct entries received; winning 1st to 3rd prizes of £50, a copy of the Civic Society's publication Salisbury in Detail, and a year's free membership of the society respectively. The second prize was presented in person at the end of the event.

A lot of work, by various people, went into the posters, and getting them all produced for the day was a tight-run thing – the last one was collected from Salisbury Printing three minutes before they closed for the weekend. A few will be overtaken by events, like the gasometer ones, but most will remain perfectly valid beyond Civic Day, and the Society will be looking for opportunities to bring them out again in the future. The day itself was seen, by all involved, as a great success.

***Hadrian Cook, Dieter Scholz, Anne Upson and Richard Deane***

## MYSTERY VISIT

*On 19 July, 18 intrepid members set off through woodland and heath, past grazing ponies and the occasional deer, to follow Wendy English to an unknown destination.*

Our first stop was at St Nicholas Church, Brockenhurst, reputed to be the oldest in the New Forest and one of the only two mentioned in the Domesday Book. Christians have worshipped on the site since AD737, and despite the inevitable Victorian urge to renovate buildings, there is still some Saxon herringbone masonry in the nave as well as a Norman font and mouldings round the South door. There we were plied with hot drinks and Anzac oatmeal biscuits, made for us to a New Zealand recipe from Scottish forebears, by welcoming representatives of the parish. They also gave us some fascinating insights into the part played by

Brockenhurst in the First World War. It had been chosen by the War Office as a major hospital centre, and the hospitals there cared for thousands of Indian soldiers before taking on the main role in treating New Zealand troops. We were shown the immaculate cemetery where there are 93 New Zealand graves, one Australian grave and those of three Indian and three unidentified Belgian civilians. The annual celebration of Anzac Day at the church draws both local worshippers and representatives of the New Zealand government.

After that we were more than ready for a delicious and lavish lunch at the Red Lion in Boldre, where wooden beams provide a hanging place for rural antiques, and the friendly staff quickly dispersed any alarm which might have been caused by the

*Left, members at St Nicholas Church, Brockenhurst*



metal plaque of 1868 announcing that as from that date “poachers shall be shot on first sight and if practicable questioned afterwards”.

We then had the option of either exploring Brockenhurst or investigating Bucklers Hard, with lovely parkland, gardens and river views, a maritime museum, a shipwright’s cottage, a chapel where contraband was once stored, a Georgian bath house and other relics of its ship building past. The village had originally been destined by the eighteenth century owner of the Beaulieu Estate to become a hub for import and export of sugar, but when the French captured the

West Indies, he re-invented its role and made use of New Forest oak to build over 50 ships for the Royal Navy, including three which fought in the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805. As the demand for wooden warships declined, the role of the village changed again, and already by the end of the nineteenth century it had become what it remains, a popular tourist destination.

The afternoon’s treats made a satisfactory end to another excellent outing organised by Wendy and her husband John, inspired by a local friend of theirs.

**Lis Woods**

## History of the Civic Society Awards Scheme

At the AGM on 14 June 2017, Richard Deane of the society gave an interesting illustrated account of the History of the Civic Society Awards Scheme. The scheme started in 1993 and Richard became involved in 1996. Originally new builds and refurbishments were considered together with one award and one commendation in each category.

One of the early winners, Autechnique, with its then innovative curved roof, is



now demolished and Aldi stands on the site. Another early winner was Holly Close Bowerchalke, traditionally designed ‘affordable housing’.

The awards scheme was reformed in 1996 so that the new build and refurbishment/ extensions awards were on alternate years and there was no limit on the number of awards and commendations given. We were shown slides of some innovative buildings – Rock Cottage Chilmark, a rebuild with ecological features, and The Lynchets Mere which was purpose designed for an occupier with multiple sclerosis.

As a contrast Richard showed us new builds of traditional farmhouse design. One was an award winner and one not. The award winner also had a well

*Cloudberry House, Donhead St Mary – award 2013*



executed interior, whereas the non award winner had too rough a stone exterior for a design that would have traditionally been smooth ashlar in finish.

Not all award winning extensions have mirrored the design of the original building; for example, the gallery at Roche Court was of a contemporary design.

In 1999 the extensions were renamed ‘conservation’ awards and in 2000 the Lady Radnor Award for conservation schemes of exceptional quality was given, the first going to the restoration of the west front of the Cathedral. The most recent was the Paragon, Wilton Road, in 2014.

*Above: A new sign for the former Tollgate Inn – award 2014*

In 2015 the first Lord Congleton Award for new builds was awarded to the Stonehenge Visitor Centre.

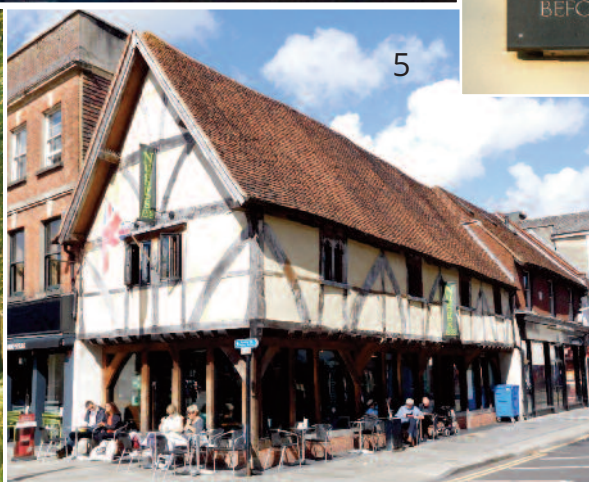
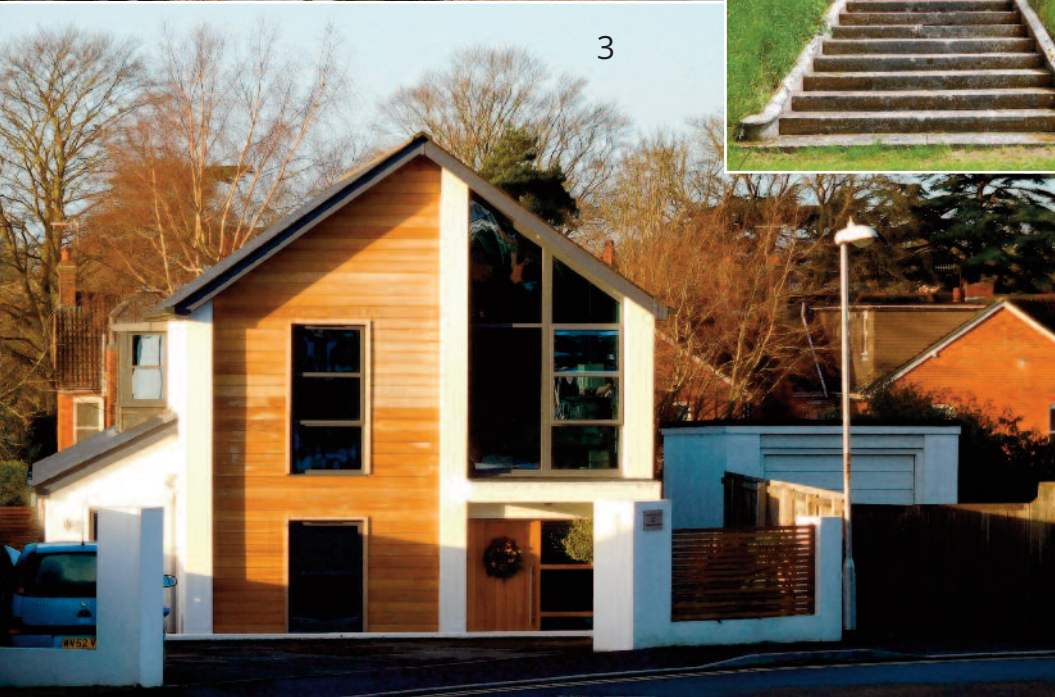
The judging panel comprises a chairman/woman, an architect and a lay person, both being members of the development committee, and a planning officer. The chair changes each year, generally a locally well known personality who is a good speaker. The first in 1993 was the secretary of the Royal Fine Arts Commission. Not all invitees have accepted though; Harrison Birtwistle was

*cont. p.14*

### **Illustrated overleaf:**

1. Apple House, Barford St Martin – award 2015
2. The Temple, Wilbury House, Newton Tony, repairs – award 2000
3. Bowling Green House, Devonshire Road, Salisbury – award 2015
4. Bourne Hill, Salisbury, extension – award 2010
5. Nuggs, Blue boar Row, Salisbury – Lady Radnor Award, 2006
6. Stonehenge Visitor Centre – Lord Congleton Award 2015
7. Gallery at Roche Court, Winterslow – award 1999
8. U3A sundial, St Thomas’s Square, Salisbury – commendation 2001
9. Cowpens, Fonthill Bishop – award 2000
10. East Knoyle Community shop – award 2007
11. Lynchets, Mere – award 2013







Anti-Poundbury and declined. Jonathan Meades could not accept the principle that the chair would defer to the other judges if he was in a minority. He was replaced at short notice by a former Chapter Clerk. Terry Pratchett chaired in 2004.

The awards scheme has embraced projects as diverse as the Milford Street murals, the East Knoyle Community Shop, and the U3A millennium sundial.

There have been ones that got away because the owners have not wanted their schemes nominated, such as Clarendon Park and Ferne Park.

There have been 'colourful' winners, such

as a case where (unknown to the Civic Society) the shop was a front for an illegal drugs operation, so the owner received firstly a Civic Society award and then a prison sentence.

Richard showed some of the more unusual 'conservation' awards: Cowpens Courtyard at Fonthill which was turned from a non-descript farm building to a 'gothick' eye catcher, a restored dovecote at Faulston, and a new sign at the former Tollgate Inn (now houses).

Finally we were given a sneak preview of potential entries for the next awards. It will be exciting to discover which are successful.

**Judy Howles**

## Lost Salisbury

Salisbury's buildings fared much better than did those of some places during the redevelopment craze of the 1960s, when the cry 'you can't stop progress!' was frequently heard. Poole, for instance, was recorded in 1950 as having 329 buildings

dating from before 1850. By the early 1970s, 150 of these had disappeared, with more still to follow. But even in Salisbury quite a lot went, as can be seen in the invaluable 1980 volume on its historic buildings produced by the Royal

Commission on Historical Monuments. This body worked in a fairly leisurely way, and quite a few entries record a building only to finish 'demolished', with a date given generally between the late 1950s and the early 1970s.

There is therefore plenty of scope to illustrate lost buildings, but the effect of over-doing this would



be a melancholy and arguably not very profitable one. The case shown here, however, is probably little known to many, and striking enough to be worth including. The current form of No 61 Wyndham Road (*above*) is a building familiar to quite a few people, functioning as it did as the planning office of Salisbury District Council. It is currently vacant, and seeking a user, with permission given for conversion to flats. Photographic records, in the Historic England archives and elsewhere, show the previous occupant of the site to have been this rather fine pumping station (*left*).

It was presumably built in 1854, which is when a combined well and borehole was sunk on the site, to a total depth of 115 feet. The pumping engines were steam powered, and remained so until replaced by a mix of electric and diesel ones in 1938. The building was demolished in

1970, and replaced by the current one, which served as the offices of the South Wiltshire Water Board, until that body disappeared in 1974. The district council came into being that year, and took on the new building for its own use. Another pumping station, of similar period, does survive, on the S side of Devizes Road near the junction with Highbury Avenue. It's a listed building, having gained that status in 1972, during a general listing exercise in the city. If the Wyndham Road building could have hung on another couple of years, it might well have been listed as well, and still be with us.

To avoid undue melancholia, 'Lost Salisbury' probably won't become a regular feature, but if any members have photos of interesting vanished buildings which are little-known, do please send them in.

**Richard Deane**



## Visit to Norrington Manor, 1 June 2017

*21 people met on a warm and sunny morning outside a secluded Grade 1 listed building in the Ebbles Valley, Norrington Manor. We were shown round by its owner, Jonathan Sykes, and the archaeologist and architectural historian, Tim Tatton-Brown.*

Tim began by outlining the history of the site. He took us to a viewpoint of a peaceful and completely uninhabited wooded valley and told us that a few hundred years ago we would have been looking at a large and prosperous village. It was probably deserted after the Black Death killed off about half the population of the country in the 14th century, and was gradually taken over by grassland and trees. The manor, which was bought in 1377 by John Gawen (perhaps a descendant of Sir Gawain, one of the knights of the Round Table) was situated on the edge of what had been a thriving community. John Gawen immediately used his wealth to develop the property. A great Hall was built, and survives to this day, as does an undercroft, a rib-vaulted strong room and a grand 15th century entrance porch. Tudor and Elizabethan features were subsequently introduced, and the house was extended by the Wyndham family after it bought the estate in 1658. Despite its varied architectural history the house retains a most pleasingly harmonious appearance. This is in large part due to the efforts of the Sykes family, which bought a much dilapidated estate from the Wyndhams in 1952 and has been painstakingly restoring it ever since.

While half the party were shown round the pre-Wyndham part of the house, the other half explored the Manor's attractive garden (designed, like Sissinghurst, as a series of inter-connected "rooms") or sat and chatted on the strategically placed benches around the property.

Following our time in Norrington several of us went to the nearby mediaeval church of St Mary's in Alvediston, where Tim introduced us to its main architectural features and its monuments, including a splendid early 15th century effigy of a recumbent knight, believed to represent John Gawen, and a beautifully carved modern memorial to Sir Anthony Eden, who died in his home in Alvediston in 1977. A representative of the parish then showed us the church's Elizabethan silverware (which includes a communion cup and a paten, both made in Salisbury) and spoke about the three church bells which are awaiting restoration as soon as sufficient funds have been raised. Two of them date from the 1630s. As we were leaving she pealed them one after the other, and their gentle chimes rang in our ears as we drove away back home.

We are most grateful for the efforts made by both Jonathan Sykes and Tim Tatton-Brown to make our visit instructive and enjoyable.

**James Woods**



*St Mary's Church, Alvediston. (Top) church from the south; (above) C15th effigy, believed to be John Gawen; and (right), Salisbury-made silver – Communion cup c. 1575 and paten c. 1680.*



## Caen – The Wiltshire Version

It may be a few miles outside the Society's area, but many members will be familiar with the Kennet and Avon canal as it passes to the north, and in particular with the remarkable Caen Hill flight of locks in Devizes (*below*). Comprising 29 locks, 16 of them in a continuous run, this makes an excellent culmination for an east to west alternative route through the town, by foot or bicycle as well as by boat. Devizes itself takes its name from the construction of a castle, initially in the C11th, at the boundaries – 'ad divisas' – of three estates. The origins of the Caen name seem more obscure, and what will also not be immediately obvious is how to pronounce it. Delving into the answer leads to the possibly rather curious fact that this is a name word of four letters which can be pronounced in at least four

different ways, something with no immediate local parallels.

In the Devizes case, Caen is pronounced 'cane', and the same is also true when the word turns up again as a place name at Braunton, west of Barnstaple in north Devon. Braunton is sometimes put forward for the title 'largest village in England', a somewhat dubious claim given that 'village' is not a very tightly defined term. Much more to the point is the genuine distinction of Braunton Great Field, an exceptionally rare survival of an open area of agricultural land still laid out in the old medieval strip system, though the number of individual owners was much diminished in the C20th. The river Caen flows through the settlement and out into the Taw, and gives its name to a



street in the village (or town, which it tends to feel like).

The prime use for the name obviously has to be Caen in Normandy, historically of considerable importance and the third largest city in that region of France, though its architecture was devastated by post D-Day conflict in 1944. The French pronunciation, which does no more than hint at the final 'n' and is generally represented as *kā*, has of course no direct parallel in English, which gives plenty of leeway when there's a need for English speakers to attempt to represent it. One of the major reasons for this need has been the excellence of Caen stone, a creamy-yellow limestone quarried near the city. In the early medieval period, large quantities of it were imported into this country, with for instance Canterbury Cathedral, Westminster Abbey and the Tower of London all being partially constructed from it. The later middle ages saw its importance decline, but the Victorians were big fans of it. In Salisbury its use at that time seems to have been restricted to internal church fittings, but St Mary's church in Andover is a good example of its external use, combined in this case with high quality knapped and squared flintwork. St Mary's also shows that the C19th stone was coming from beds of lower quality than the earlier stone, with a lot of decay now evident. Limited quantities are still available today, of uncertain durability.

The importance of the stone in England has made some form of pronunciation of its name essential, and unsurprisingly the stone trade makes no attempt to replicate the French original, preferring instead to refer to the stone as 'Carn'. Simple,

straightforward, and near enough, and adopted by nearly everyone, though with one notable exception. The architect Martin Caroe, a member of an architectural dynasty which currently spans four generations, was in charge of the repairs to the west front of Wells cathedral in the 1970s and 80s, an exercise of great significance in its encouragement of an enlightened approach to the conservation of historic architecture, and in particular to the conservation of stonework. Martin Caroe preferred to call the stone 'Can', and gave no signs of being at all bothered by being somewhat out on a limb over this.

So this one name can be pronounced '*kā*', 'cane', 'carn' or 'can', in different contexts and by different people, and it is not impossible that other variants have also been known. To the average English speaker there will be no intuitive, right answer as regards the pronunciation, and the 'cane' choice at Devizes is as reasonable as any. One clue as to why the name Caen became connected with the town seems to be offered by a 'Wiltshire community history' thumbnail account of Devizes, supplied by Wiltshire Council, which says that after the original timber castle burned down it was rebuilt in stone by Richard of Caen, 'Osmund's successor as Bishop of Salisbury'. However as every other account seems to name Osmund's successor as Roger of Salisbury, with no other references anywhere to the shadowy Richard of Caen, this trail quickly runs cold. Tracking down the birthplaces of names is in any case often a fruitless occupation, liable to be beset along the way by shoals of red herrings. A mile to the north of the flight of locks, maps show

a small settlement called Tanis. Appropriated in passing by the first Indiana Jones film, as the name of another location for unlikely exploits by the titular hero, Tanis, while it may not have harboured the Ark of the Covenant, was in fact a genuine Egyptian city of considerable importance, located in the Nile delta, at its peak early in the first millennium BC, and then abandoned after a change of water course made it unviable. Any connection between it and the version near Devizes seems unlikely, but how that place got its title may be beyond the reach of enquiry. The somewhat convoluted story of how Salisbury, and Sarum, came by their names (essentially, the latter was a mistake) illustrates the difficulties inherent in place-name etymology, and the shifts across time that hide true origins. Simple explanations are often

best avoided – Sixpenny Handley, south of us in Dorset, owes its name to circumstances which have nothing at all to do with old coinage, and Chicklade east of Mere has no easy connection with eggs and poultry, any more than does Henlade east of Taunton.

Tanis, and Caen, are names which give nothing away about how they came to be used for humble places far away from the much grander municipalities to which they were first attached. And the second of the two leaves us guessing as to how or when the multiple choice question of how to pronounce it in Wiltshire was resolved, unless, in a spirit of contrariness, it was a matter of going for something as unrecognisable as possible to the citizens of Normandy.

**Richard Deane**

## PLANNING UPDATES

### *McCarthy & Stone, Castle Street/Endless Street*

A planning application by McCarthy & Stone, submitted in May, has now been approved. The scheme will create 100+ retirement flats on the large Aviva office site, between Castle Street and Endless Street, with the current buildings disappearing. The Society found the original form of the scheme profoundly depressing, with a banal neo-historical elevational treatment of the sort which, as actually built, is seldom convincing at the best of times. The fact that this treatment attempted to create the illusion of

separate house fronts, but completely lacked anything resembling doors (since the entire development is in fact inward-looking flats), deepened the gloom. After discussions with the planners and others, and amendments, including two appearances by the architect at Development Committee meetings, the final design was much more promising, though a depiction of it which was featured in the Journal did it no favours. This one could go either way. Decent materials and attention to detailing could create something which, in particular, enhances the approach into the city along Castle Street, while a lack of such



*The McCarthy & Stone retirement flats: elevations as seen from Castle Street (top) & Endless Street (from the planning application)*

commitment could result in something not much better than the first design approach promised. One can only hope for the best.

### *Old Manor Hospital site*

The Society continues to try to influence some of the details of the redevelopment, but given the view commonly taken that the rescue of the long-derelict site is so welcome that almost anything is likely to be acceptable, within reason, and the commercial pressure the developers are under to cram on as much as possible, the efficacy of our efforts has not been great. (The developers paid £4.1 million for a site which Wiltshire Council had previously offered the NHS £1 for. Given the cost of rescuing its listed buildings, a sum somewhere in the middle might have been more appropriate). The most

positive event has been the retention of an unlisted but attractive terrace in the SW part of the site. An earlier proposal to demolish this was opposed by the Society, and some reconfiguration of the layout of the whole site has now enabled the terrace's retention. However to the north quite a number of new buildings are to go up, around the listed Avon House, initially designed, for some reason, to resemble semi-detached houses of the 1930s. This styling was then shed, in favour of a vaguely neo-Georgian one, but with so little detail provided about materials or other key points that proper assessment of the designs was impossible. The Society's request for more information got nowhere, and the latest news is that permission has been given for all four phases of the site's redevelopment, without any further enlightenment provided as to what these new houses will actually look like.

If the final outcome, for the whole site, is one that lacks both any real sense of the





*An aerial view of the Old Manor Hospital site, from the 1920s or 1930s*

former character of this very individual part of Salisbury, and any design distinctiveness in its own right, it would be hard to attach much blame to the developers who eventually took the site on. Its whole story, since the hospital closed around 2000, is one of missed opportunities, with buildings quietly mouldering and becoming more and more expensive to rescue, and an ever-increasing sense that almost anything would be preferable to the eyesore much of the site had become.

### *Riverside restaurants*

As reported in the March magazine, a proposal to create two restaurants, alongside the riverside walk between Crane Street and Fisherton Street, depended on the current 98 Crane Street being replaced by a building incorporating a gateway into the site, which is otherwise inaccessible. The Society accepted a second design for this building as being just about good enough for its location, as did the planners, who recommended the whole proposal for approval when it went to the relevant Wiltshire Council committee. However the members then decided to refuse the application, in January this year. This left the possibility of a revised proposal, or an appeal, the

latter often being seen as having a significant chance of success if a recommendation to approve is ignored. The confident prediction in the March magazine was that 'given the work put into the whole scheme, simple abandonment of it is the least likely option'. However nothing was heard for six months, until an application was submitted to convert the upper floors of 98 Crane Street from their current business use, into a flat. The whole story is unclear, with no obvious connection between those submitting the application and those involved with the restaurants proposal. However it is hard to see why anyone would want to pay for proposals to be drawn up, and an application submitted, if there was any realistic chance of the building being pulled down and a gateway structure built in its place, any time soon. The assumption has to be that the restaurants proposal has been abandoned, and the riverside path will continue in its present form, tranquil, but passing by an abandoned part of the old Woolworths building, which may indeed have potential to be something rather more interesting. Views on this apparent outcome will no doubt be mixed.

**Richard Deane**

## Bristol Civic Society visit

31 members of Bristol Civic Society came to Salisbury on Wednesday 21st of June and were welcomed by members of Salisbury Civic Society. Neil Beagrie, Richard Deane, and Hadrian Cook led tours through the city and around St Thomas's Church, Harnham Water Meadows, and Salisbury's historic pubs and inns. In addition there were also tours of the Cathedral and tower. Members of both Societies met over lunch at the Rai d'Or. Many of our members have said how much they enjoyed meeting colleagues from Bristol Civic Society and also learning about their work over lunch. It was an excellent day and we are exploring possibilities for a reciprocal visit of SCS to Bristol as part of our programme for 2018.

The following note of thanks was received from Bristol:

Thank you to you and your colleagues for making such an enjoyable day! We had a simply wonderful day out, learning a great deal about the history and the present day challenges of the City and meeting such knowledgeable members of the Salisbury Civic Society. For me the highlight was the trip up the Cathedral Tower, one not to be missed!

I hope we will be able to arrange a visit to Bristol for you and your members?

Thanks and best wishes

Simon Birch  
Chair, Bristol Civic Society

**Neil Beagrie**

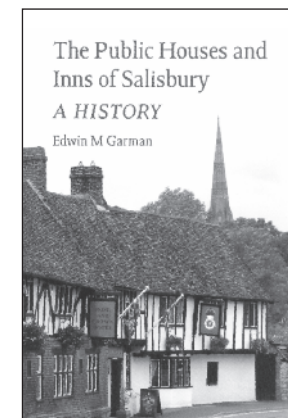
## BOOK REVIEW

"The Public Houses and Inns of Salisbury: a history" by Edwin M Garman was published in July by Hobnob Press. This 332-page paperback will be of great interest to anyone interested in Salisbury's social history and its pubs and inns.

It is a compendium of detailed historical information about 270 premises in Salisbury of all periods that are or have been inns, alehouses, taverns, public houses and beerhouses, with illustrations by Fred Fieber, an introduction setting the context, explanations of terms, a reprint of a series of 19th-century articles about old inns of Salisbury, cross-references and notes.

It's in stock at Waterstones, at £14.95, or can be ordered elsewhere. (ISBN-13: 978-1906978433).

**Neil Beagrie**



# Open Meeting, November 21st

## The Maltings Redevelopment

6.30pm at the Alamein Suite, City Hall

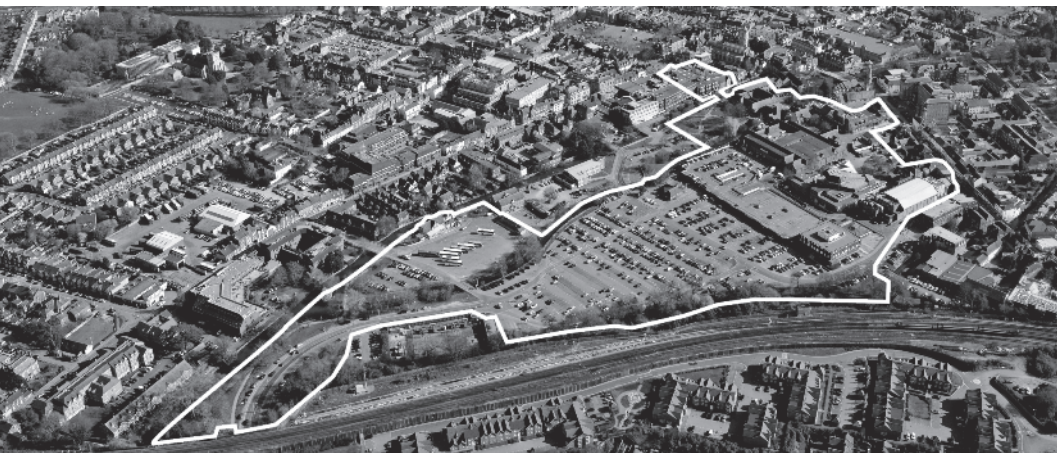
As with the last two Open Meetings, the talks will start at 7.30, but there will be an introductory session starting at 6.30, aimed at encouraging attenders who are not members to join. Committee members will be present to explain what the Society is about, and light refreshments will be available. There will be displays on the Society's work, drawing on the material used at Civic Day. Those who already belong to the Society will of course be equally welcome to come along to this part of the meeting.

The aim is to focus on the details of the forthcoming Maltings redevelopment, but this has to be qualified somewhat by saying that as this magazine goes to press, there is no absolute certainty that the developers, TH Real Estate, will be ready to reveal exactly what they plan. As reported in the Journal, they expect to be in a position to do this before the end of this year, with a planning application early next year, and work starting around September. Their projection is that

completion, of what apparently is a first phase, presumably of two, will take place around autumn 2020. They have quoted £85 million as the likely expenditure for this phase. The aerial photograph below shows the outline of the entire site, as advertised by Wiltshire Council in 2011.

We have been told by TH Real Estate that the date of the Open Meeting should be realistic for giving details of their plans. Just in case timings slip, the Society needs to have a back-up topic, and currently the thinking is that this could be a focus on one aspect of the Maltings project, the enhancement of cultural facilities at the Fisherton Street end of the site. This would ideally be widened out to consider the whole structure of cultural provision in the city, not least what assurances can be given that there really will be a festival in 2019. However seeking to put a meeting like this together, at short notice, may be a touch ambitious.

*Members will receive word, either by email or in printed form, of the final shape of the meeting, a week or two before it.*



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*Back cover: Civic day at the Guildhall*



