



## **The Friends of Devon's Archives**

www.foda.org.uk

Registered Charity 1107394

c/o Devon Heritage Centre, Great Moor House,  
Bittern Road, Sowton Exeter EX2 7NL.

### **Welcome to the Spring 2018 Newsletter**

In some ways it has been a relatively quiet time for the Friends – yet no sooner do I write those words than I have to admit that it is in such apparently ‘quiet’ times that the most profound changes happen. For example, Corpus Christi College recently teamed up with Stanford University to put almost the entire Parker Library – a treasure trove of early manuscripts, including the earliest extant copy of the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* – online, with free access to all (see <https://parker.stanford.edu/parker/>). Such medieval wonders are increasingly available to scholars, as the gateway to online medieval manuscripts testifies (see <https://www.manuscriptsonline.org/>). Locally, the digital revolution is similarly working its slow magic. Work continues on the Devon ‘Know your place’ project, which allows access to layers of mapping so people can see what was on the site of their house in, say, the nineteenth century. And on a practical front, the South West Heritage Trust has signed an agreement with Archiva for the storage of born-digital archives. Quiet times are not necessarily unexciting ones.

As the digital revolution continues to develop, it inevitably follows that control of data becomes more and more important. As you will read in Peter Towey’s article in this newsletter, the General Data Protection Regulation is almost upon us. The GDPR is an EU directive seeking to limit what organisations can and cannot do with your digital information. This affects all those organisations that store data digitally. If you think that no one would really bother about a small Friends organisation, in 2016 a local history society was fined by the Information Commissioner for failing to take adequate safeguards over a list of donors to a museum on an unencrypted laptop, which was stolen from a car (<https://ico.org.uk/media/action-weve-taken/mpns/1625357/mpn-historical-society-20161107.pdf>). Even though the information was never used maliciously, and

even though the history society itself reported the incident to the Information Commissioner, it still was fined £500 (as well as losing its laptop). Information in this day and age is changing in importance as well as format, even if the information itself is the same as it ever was.

Another way in which the digital revolution is affecting us is to be noted with regard to our next meeting, which will take place on 28 April at Torquay Museum. We are experimenting with using Eventbrite to take bookings for this event, from both members and non-members. This should save postage and time for all concerned. Aware that not everyone will want to book this way, however, we are continuing to accept the old-fashioned cheque that we always have done in the past. See the relevant article at the end of this newsletter for details.

You will recall that in the last newsletter I appealed for members of FoDA to act as the 'eyes and ears' of the organisation in spotting collections of documents for sale. I would like to thank Lydia Burge in particular for passing on several pieces of information concerning auctions of Devon documents. Alas, one lot that we did bid on escaped us. It was a collection of deeds relating to Hockworthy, 1687-1842. In fact, we lost out twice, as the eventual purchaser immediately broke up the collection and offered the documents for sale individually at inflated prices on Ebay. This is another example of the ways in which the digital revolution is changing the market for documents. It also goes to show how important it is to be aware of what is out there: once broken up, such collections tend to be lost forever.

On a more positive note, you will be pleased to hear that the National Manuscripts Conservation Trust has awarded the South West Heritage Trust a grant of £18,861 to help conserve the political correspondence of Henry Addington, Viscount Sidmouth, Prime Minister and Home Secretary between 1801 and 1822, which is held at the Devon Heritage Centre. The application was supported by the promise of £2,000 towards the project from FoDA: a cheque for this sum was handed over to the SWHT staff at the last committee meeting.

Finally, it is pleasing to report that FoDA members and other campaigners were successful in persuading the members of Torbay Council to review the mayor's strategy of cutting the last vestiges of the grant to Torbay and Brixham Museums, and in fact to annul it. Although the grants are small, cutting them would have disproportionately reduced the capacity of these organisations, and not only had a detrimental impact on the local amenity for Torbay residents but would have damaged the museums' ability to attract money from other sources, through demonstrating a lack of political support to maintain the institutions. It is therefore very welcome to see councillors responding so positively on this issue.

Ian Mortimer, Chairman

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## **Up-date from the Membership Secretary**

We started the new year with 134 paid up members, this number being made up of 84 individual members, 11 Family members (counted as 22), 17 Life members and 11 Groups. We also include 11 volunteers at the Record Office in Exeter.

This is a reduction on the numbers we ended last year with: 169, but many members who pay by cheque have not yet posted it. Please could they now do so.

The October bank statement showed that 12 members or former members were still paying at the old rate at the old time = 1<sup>st</sup> October. I have written to each one to get them to sort this out. I

have only heard from a few. I will keep an eye on progress. These members are not counted in the figures above.

Peter Towey, Membership Secretary

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## South West Heritage Trust

The Trust was delighted to hear that it has been awarded £18,861 by the National Manuscripts Conservation Trust for a project to conserve the political correspondence of **Henry Addington, 1st Viscount Sidmouth (1757–1844)** who was Prime Minister from 1801-1804 and Home Secretary from 1812-1822. The Friends of Devon's Archives have generously given an additional £2,000 towards this important project, which is much appreciated. The Sidmouth papers, which suffered damp damage before acquisition, are one of the most significant political archives in any West Country collection.

A great deal of work has been undertaken to prepare Devon mapping for the **Know Your Place website** (<http://www.kypwest.org.uk>). The launch on the site of Devon material is expected in early spring 2018. This will make the following Devon maps available: tithe maps, first and second edition Ordnance Survey maps, GOAD insurance maps for Exeter and Plymouth and some town plans, as well as the modern map of the county.

In September a successful talk was given at Torre Abbey by Ciaran Stoker, as part of the **Devon Remembers Heritage Project**. 'A Great and Desperate Venture: Belgian Refugees in Devon' told the story of the refugees who came in large numbers to towns and villages in Devon during the First World War, and of the people who organised the humanitarian effort to support them. The Devon Remembers project was promoted to the farming community at several agricultural shows over the summer months, and we even won a rosette for our display at the Honiton Show! A book of creative writing produced by Devon people as their response to the experience of the First World War in the county has been published, and is available free of charge from the Devon Heritage Centre and North Devon Record Office.

A major project is now underway to implement a **digital preservation solution** for archives that come to us in digital form. This will enable us to care for these archives in the future and make them available to researchers. Detailed surveys of the existing electronic archives that are held in our strongrooms are now underway. So far this has included a wide range of different digital media including some original floppy disks! This project marks a significant development, and will pave the way for us to be able to accept digital archives more easily in the future.

A group of documents, including a commonplace book relating to the **Dyer family of Barnstaple**, 1830s, was acquired at auction in September with the support of the Devon Family History Society. The Trust is also working with the South West Police Heritage Trust in relation to the long-term future of the archive collection of the **Devon and Cornwall Constabulary**.

As part of the funded project to list the archives of the Wyndham family (which are held at the Somerset Heritage Centre) an exhibition was held at Silverton Village Hall on 9 September in partnership with Silverton Local History Society. **The Wyndhams: A West Country Dynasty** drew on the rich materials contained in the collection, which dates from the middle ages onwards, to illustrate the history of the area. Silverton was one of many Wyndham estates.

Preparation is starting on two **one-day exhibitions** on the theme of tourism. These will be taking place at Weston super Mare Museum on 5 June and at the Barnstaple Guildhall on 13 June. This provides an opportunity to showcase archive collections to new audiences in different parts of our two counties – 700 people saw our map exhibition last summer.

The Trust organised and hosted a **day conference** at the Museum of Somerset on 13 November. The conference, called ‘Agendas for Change’, was attended by heritage professionals from around the South West, including Devon, and considered the opportunities and challenges faced by the sector. It was supported by funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

An exhibition called **‘MUSE: Makers in Museums’** has been on show at the Museum of Somerset. It celebrated the work of eight artists based in community museums in Devon and Somerset, funded by Arts Council England and the Heritage Lottery Fund. Four Devon museums have been involved: Cookworthy Museum in Kingsbridge, Axminster Museum, the Teign Heritage Centre in Teignmouth, and the Museum of Dartmoor Life in Okehampton.

Janet Tall, Head of Archives & Local Studies  
Irene Andrews, Devon Archives & Local Studies Manager

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## The Wyndham Archive (Devon)



Map of Kentisbeare, c. 1639, ref: DD\WY/9/3/2

One of the West Country’s finest estate collections is now fully accessible following the completion of a fifteen-month cataloguing project undertaken by the South West Heritage Trust.

The Wyndham archive is the largest held at the Somerset Heritage Centre in Taunton and is acknowledged as a foundation stone of West Country history. The collection comprises over 7,000 items, including title deeds, estate accounts, surveys, maps, manor court rolls, and correspondence, ranging in date from c. 1150 to 2003. Together, these records tell the story of the Wyndhams, the places they owned, and the countless thousands of individuals who lived and worked on their lands across the South West.

The Wyndham family began their association with the West Country with the marriage in the 1520s of John Wyndham of Norfolk to Elizabeth Sydenham. Elizabeth came from Orchard in the parish of Williton, Somerset, and the name of the hamlet and family seat soon changed to Orchard Wyndham. Orchard remained at the core of the Wyndham family estate, which in the course of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries expanded to include manors and other lands in Williton, Watchet and Doniford.

Through marriage, the Wyndhams inherited the estates of Nicholas Wadham (1531/2-1609), of Merryfield, Ilton, in Somerset and of Edge, Branscombe, in Devon, founder, with his wife Dorothy, of Wadham College at Oxford University. These included the Devon manors of Wadham, Silverton, Rewe, Pool Anthony, Newcott, Widdicombe, Lustleigh, South Tawton and Howton. The collection includes a rich series of records relating to all these manors. The Wyndhams subsequently purchased various other parts of the Wadham estates in Somerset, Devon and Dorset.



Silverton Park, late 19<sup>th</sup> century, ref: DD\WY/10/8/1

Much of the Devon material in the collection relates to Silverton Park, home of George Francis Wyndham, 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Egremont (1786-1845). His uncle, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl had died in 1837 leaving at least forty illegitimate children, but no legitimate offspring. While his title and West Country estates passed to his nephew, he left his magnificent Sussex residence, Petworth House, to his eldest illegitimate son. Aggrieved at not gaining Petworth, the 4<sup>th</sup> Earl purchased Coombsatchfield House at Silverton and set about transforming it into Silverton Park, a palatial mansion to rival Petworth, filling the new residence with paintings by the likes of Poussin, Sir Joshua Reynolds, Titian, Van Dyck, Thomas Gainsborough and Caravaggio. The Earl died without issue, leaving his estates and a mountain of debts to his widow, Jane. On Jane's death in 1876 the estates passed to William Wyndham of Dinton in Wiltshire, a distant cousin.

In 1892 the contents of Silverton Park were auctioned off (the house itself was demolished in 1901; only the stable block survives). This major auction included the sale of a library of 1,000 books, collections of Egyptian and Etruscan pottery, the contents of 60 bedrooms, dressing rooms and reception rooms, and two Egyptian mummies! The catalogue for the 1892 sale, of which we have a surviving copy, went on to achieve considerable fame in the art world when it was revealed that the notorious forger Shaun Greenhalgh had used a copy as a source for creating a number of

his works, then using it to give them spurious provenances. In 2002 Greenhalgh approached Bolton Museum with a statue that he claimed had formed part of Lot 201 at the Silverton Park sale (nebulously entitled 'Eight Egyptian Figures'), purchased by his great-grandfather, and producing a copy of the catalogue to prove it. The statue became known as the 'Amarna Princess', so called because experts believed it to be a work of the Amarna period of Egyptian art (1351 – 1334 BC). Authenticated by staff at the British Museum, who declared it 'the most impressive example of its kind in the world', the fake statue went on to sell for £439,767. Greenhalgh was sentenced to four years and eight months in prison in 2007. In 2010 the Victoria and Albert Museum in London staged an exhibition of his forgeries.

Devon local and family historians exploring the nineteenth century will be especially interested in the correspondence and papers of the agents and stewards who managed the Devon estates. Men like James Cordwent amassed hundreds of letters from tenants covering a huge variety of topics, including rent arrears, properties in disrepair, and troublesome neighbours! These letters constitute a remarkably vivid and lively evocation of the county in the Victorian period.

Creating more opportunities for people to get to know the collection's treasures has been a key component of the Wyndham project, and on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2017 more than ninety items, spanning eight centuries, were displayed in an exhibition at Silverton. The exhibition was a great success. We recorded nearly 300 visitors, some from as far afield as Cornwall and Gloucestershire. One visitor was reunited with a member of a family he had been evacuated to during the war!

The complete Wyndham collection catalogue can be viewed on the Somerset Archive Catalogue, which can be accessed via the following link: <http://somerset-cat.swheritage.org.uk/>

The project to list the collection was funded by a £31,570 grant awarded by the National Cataloguing Grants Programme. The Cataloguing Grants Programme is administered by The National Archives and supported by organisations including the Pilgrim Trust, the Foyle Foundation, the Wolfson Foundation, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the J. Paul Getty Junior Charitable Trust.

*The Wyndham collection was accepted by HM Government in Lieu of Inheritance Tax and allocated to Somerset County Council for the Somerset Heritage Centre, 2012.*

Scott Pettit, Archivist

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## **Accessions at Plymouth & West Devon Record Office**

Since the last report 23 deposits have been received, with highlights including:

Acc 4158: Crownhill Hutments and Daisy Mabel Mole, Photographs

Acc 4162: Diary of Robert A Mack, town missionary

Acc 4163: Letters of J Paton Watson and Charles Forrest Palmer

Acc 4165: Royal Albert Bridge plan

Acc's 4167 and 4170: Records of Pearn Convalescent Home and Pearn Almshouses Trust

Although our deadline for new deposits has passed, we are still asking people with material to deposit to contact us and let us know what they have.

Alan Barclay, P&WDRO

## Brixham Heritage Museum

Thanks to a small grant from the Arts Council we are embarking on a scheme to improve the cataloguing and storage of our archives. John Scotney has recently published a short history of Brixham, in the course of which he was made aware both of the value and uniqueness of the archives and of the difficulties in locating individual items. We are fortunate in our new administrator, Martin Smith, who combines a business background with a history degree and a passion for local history. He is leading a team of volunteers currently busy sorting the archive and building the required shelving. Brixham is a town that changed hugely in the course of the twentieth century and an important part of our archive is a wealth of photographs gathered over the last 150 years and an oral history archive that has captured the memories of local 'old-timers', many of whom are no longer with us. This is currently being supplemented by the 'Hear and Now' project funded by a local charity and a grant from English Heritage.

This year we are rebuilding our website which we hope will provide a gateway into our archives but in the longer term it is our intention to seek funding to store documents, photographs (including those of important archaeological finds) and oral material in digital form to make it available to scholars worldwide.

John Scotney  
Vice-Chair, Brixham Heritage Museum

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## Exeter Cathedral Library and Archives

Steady progress is still being made in adding content to the Cathedral Archives' online **catalogues**. With the help of a small but dedicated band of volunteers we have now completed the upload of more than 85% of the descriptions of the records of the Vicars Choral, and already in 2018 we have added several hundred descriptions of our medieval and post-medieval deeds. Although the Archives are those of the Dean & Chapter of Exeter Cathedral, it's worth researchers remembering that we have records which cover many places across the county and beyond (most recently we uploaded a whole batch of records relating to Culmstock). If you're not sure what we've got, keep checking the catalogues, or get in touch. In the meantime, the librarians continue to update and improve catalogue entries for the pre-1801 Library core collections (they are currently tackling Latin literature), and the science and medical collections.

The research phase of the *Conqueror's Commissioners* project has now been completed and we are looking ahead to the launch of the website. Anyone interested in the Exon Domesday manuscript should come along to a day of events at Exeter Cathedral on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2018. During the day there will be masterclasses with the project team covering: **How to read a Domesday entry** (with Dr Frank Thorn and Astrid Khoo); **How to read the geld accounts** (with Dr Chris Lewis); **How to interpret the Exon manuscript** (with Dr Francisco Álvarez López and Prof. Julia Crick); **How to explore the Exon website** (Prof. Peter Stokes). There will also be a **Spotlight on Exon** from 15.00 until 17.30 (a small selection of booklets from the Exon Domesday manuscript) with Prof. Stephen Baxter and the Cathedral team in attendance. In the evening Prof. Stephen Baxter will deliver a lecture '**Exon Domesday: The Key to the Conqueror's Great Survey**'.

*Imprint* is a collaborative project between the Universities of Lincoln and Aberystwyth in collaboration with Forensic Focus, bringing new forensic technologies to old documents at the cathedral archives of Exeter, Hereford and Lincoln, Westminster Abbey and the National Library

of Wales. Using equipment more often found in crime scenes than archives, the project team have investigated the finger and hand prints embedded into sealing wax by medieval people. Anyone interested in **seals and sealing practice** can come to one of the workshops being run with their usual panache by the project team on 20<sup>th</sup> April, or pop into the Cathedral on 21<sup>st</sup> April.

Further details and booking information for all these events are available on the What's On pages of the Cathedral website: <https://www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk/news-events/what-is-on/category/adult-learning/>

Ellie Jones, Cathedral Archivist

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## **Exeter Cathedral medieval manuscripts held in the Bodleian Library**

In 1602 the Dean and Chapter of Exeter presented the university library in Oxford with about 95 volumes of manuscripts following its re-establishment by Sir Thomas Bodley. During 2017 the plaque commemorating Sir Thomas Bodley's birth at the corner of the High Street and Gandy Street fell off the wall and was shattered. The Exeter Civic Society plans to replace the plaque during 2018 and Ian Maxted is working towards a display of pages from the manuscripts transferred from Exeter to the Bodleian Library to be shown when the plaque is rededicated later in the year. He has discovered that more than thirty of the manuscripts have been wholly or partially digitised and has images for most of them. He is currently researching details of the manuscripts represented and will be approaching the Bodleian to seek permission to display them in Exeter and also to retain copies for consultation within the city. While there is a rich collection of archives in the Cathedral, little remains of the medieval library collections. However in Oxford, Cambridge, London and elsewhere well over one hundred manuscripts survive, making Exeter one of the best recorded medieval libraries in the country. The Exeter Civic Society project will make a small start in reassembling this collection for the benefit of the people of Devon.

Ian Maxted

Devon Bibliography: <http://devon-bibliography.blogspot.co.uk>

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## **Tiverton Museum of Mid Devon Life**

Recent accessions include:

- 2017.80 Scrapbooks from Tiverton Evening Townswomen's Guild
- 2017.88 Photographs of Tiverton Hospital nurses
- 2017.89 Report on Borough of Tiverton 1834
- 2017.98 Local school magazines 1930s
- 2017.99 The Chilcott school magazine 1965
- 2017.101 Photographs of Goodlands builder's merchants
- 2017.103 Minutes books British Legion Women's Section Tiverton branch
- 2017.106 Photographs Tiverton 1960s
- 2017.120 Collection of greetings cards c. 1980s

Pippa Griffith, Director and Mid Devon Museum Development Officer,  
Tiverton Museum of Mid Devon Life

## Totnes Archives

We have mainly been working on research into Totnes VAD hospital and “Women’s War Work in WWI” in preparation for an exhibition to be put on at the museum in July. After a break of 9 years a new issue of the magazine “Totnes Review” will be published in June. The articles in the magazine are largely produced by researchers in the Totnes archives & will include, among many others, items on wife-selling, Totnes golf club, the boundary stones of Totnes, and Dittisham women rowers in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. We are often asked for Totnes workhouse records but these have largely been lost so an index has been produced to newspaper reports of bastardy cases. If we have a quiet period the history of a Totnes pub is produced; a new one recently added to our list is the Oxford Arms. A history of The Bull is almost complete.

Sue King, Totnes Archives

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## University of Exeter Library Heritage Collections

Archivist Annie Price is nearing completion of our project to catalogue the Syon Abbey Archive. This is a big project and you can already search the catalogue for a substantial part of the collection from our homepage: <http://as.exeter.ac.uk/special-collections/>. Please contact us on [libspc@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:libspc@exeter.ac.uk) if you’d like to know more about the archive.

Also, you can learn more about the project from the project blog page <http://specialcollections.exeter.ac.uk/category/syon-abbey/>. The latest Syon Abbey blog is by student Sophie Morgan who has been helping Annie to list the archive.

The blog post is also the best place to find out more about our other major cataloguing project – The Ronald Duncan archive, managed by Caroline Walter at <http://specialcollections.exeter.ac.uk/category/ronald-duncan/> with blogs from Digital Project Officer, Andrew Cusworth and volunteer Rhiannon Platt.

If you like Twitter and don’t follow us yet, we are also @UoEHeritageColl.

We hope to recruit to a new temporary post in the summer to catalogue a group of our important Middle Eastern Collections and we are really pleased to announce that our two current archivists, Caroline Walter and Annie Price, will be staying with us for two more years to catalogue our Common Ground and Northcott Theatre archives.

Christine Fauch, Head of Heritage Collections,  
University of Exeter

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## The accuracy of a Parish Register - A Cautionary Tale

Some years ago whilst searching for the baptisms of ancestors in the Crediton area, I consulted the register for Down St Mary. It mentions four baptisms for the children of John Towt,

blacksmith, and his wife Anne between the years of 1848 and 1853. The strange thing is it records another *nine* baptisms to the children of Anne Towt, blacksmith's widow, between 1856 and 1871.

One posthumous baptism is not unusual. Two is suspicious. Nine requires further investigation.

John and Anne Towt were married in Down St Mary on 13 April 1848. John gave his age as 24, a blacksmith of the parish, son of William Towt, also a blacksmith. His bride was Anne Elson, 23, a dressmaker, and spinster of the parish. Curiously, in the space where the name of the bride's father would normally be recorded, the rector had written "*Filius Populi* [*son of the people*] Jane Parker, wife of weaver".

The four legitimate children born to John and Anne Towt were Joseph (1848), Elizabeth (1850), William (1851) and George (1853). John then died in 1855, at the age of 31 and was buried in Down St. Mary.

The 1861 census notes that the household then contained George Towt (age 25), blacksmith; Ann Towt, his wife (36), formerly dressmaker; and eight children: Joseph (aged 12), blacksmith; Elizabeth (11); William (9); George (7); Charles (4); Jane (3); Henry (1) and Helena (5 weeks). The baptism register of Down St Mary notes that the last four were all born to 'Anne, blacksmith's widow' – no father's name is given.

Thirty years later, the 1891 Census records the Towt household as being home to George Towt (56), a wheelwright; Ann (67); Charles (33), blacksmith; Henry J. (31), carpenter; Helena A. (30), dressmaker; Mary R. (25), no occupation; and Jane Parker (97), mother-in-law). Anne's younger children were recorded in the baptism register as being born to 'widow of blacksmith'. They were Fanny Jessie (1862); Martha and Mary Rosa (1865); and another Mary Rosa (1866), presumably due to her sibling of the same name dying in infancy.

The marriage register states that three of above children listed George Towt as being their father. It turns out that George was a younger brother of John Towt, Anne's first husband. A search of the FreeBMD index records a marriage for George and Ann Towt (September Quarter 1856, Exeter 5b 138). So the nine children baptised from December 1856 onwards were legitimate but something prevented the rector of Down St Mary saying so.

The answer appears to lie in the fact that, before 1908, it was not permitted by the Church for a widow to marry her deceased husband's brother. Thus George and Anne's marriage, which presumably took place at the Exeter Register Office, was not recognised by the Church. Although the marriage was legal, the Down St. Mary clergy showed their disapproval of her choice of second husband such by recording the baptisms of her children as if they were illegitimate. The initial impression that Ann was in a rather scandalous situation is incorrect – all due to the Down St Mary clergy and a little-known corner of canon law.

Sources:

- Down St. Mary Baptism, Marriage & Burial Registers
- 1861 & 1891 Census from FreeCen
- Marriage and Death Indexes from FreeBMD
- Definition of *filius populi* = *son of the people* (*anyone's guess of six*) from Eve McLaughlin's book *Simple Latin*, p.17

Sue Jackson

## The FoDA Spring Meeting

As many people will already be aware, this year's spring meeting will be on the theme of non-written archives, such as drawings and paintings, fashion, photographs and museum objects. In fact, it's got to be the most exciting FoDA meeting we've yet held! It will take place at Torquay Museum, 529 Babbacombe Rd, Torquay TQ1 1HG, on Saturday 28 April 2018. The agenda is as follows:

9:45-10:20 – coffee and registration

10:20-10:30 – Chairman's introduction

10:30-11:30 – **JMW Turner in the West Country** by Prof. Sam Smiles (Visiting specialist in British Art 1750-1950 at the University of Plymouth)

11:30-12:00 – coffee break

12:00-13:00 – **The history of clothing and fashion** by Shelley Tobin (Assistant Curator at Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter, and Costume Curator at Killerton House)

13:00-14:00 – lunch (self-provided\* or available from the Museum café)

14:00-15:00 – **Recording Devon photographically 1850s-1870s** by Dr Tom Greeves (cultural environmentalist and independent scholar)

15:00-15:30 – tea

15:30-16:45 – **Torquay Museum and its collections, including a visit to the stores** by Barry Chandler (Curator, Torquay Museum).

\*Please note that the museum restricts the consumption of food and drink in the café and museum to items bought on the premises. You are welcome to bring your own sandwiches, or buy them down the road, but you can't eat them inside the museum. The café provides food but it only accepts cash.

Tickets are available in two ways. Our preference is that people book places via Eventbrite. This way you can seamlessly book your place and pay all in one transaction. If you click on this link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/friends-of-devons-archives-2018-spring-meeting-tickets-42902054199> it should take you to the appropriate page of the Eventbrite server, where you will be able to book tickets and pay for them there and then with your card. **If you pay via Eventbrite you do not need to send us a booking form.**

Alternatively, if you would rather book the old-fashioned way, please send the completed booking form (which accompanies this newsletter) together with a cheque for £10 per paid-up member to The Friends of Devon's Archives, c/o Brian Carpenter, Devon Heritage Centre, Great Moor House, Bittern Road, Exeter EX2 7NL. Note, non-members are more than welcome to attend but the price for the day is £12.99 per non-member.

FoDA is paying for coffees and teas and biscuits throughout the day. This amounts to £6 per person by itself, so those fees are exceptionally good value – especially if you are a member, because FoDA is also covering your online booking fee for you. Indeed, FoDA is sponsoring this event quite heavily (don't tell the treasurer). **Therefore please do all you can to make the whole event worthwhile – by coming along and bringing some friends with you.**

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## Dates for your diary

Members of FoDA may attend Devon History Society events on the same basis as members of that Society. Details of events may be found on their website:

<http://www.devonhistorysociety.org.uk/>

- **26 March 2018**, 14:30-16:30: The Devon Protestation Returns of 1642. Devon History Society Study Day and Workshop, Devon Heritage Centre
- **21 April 2018**, 10:00-16:30: How the Vote was Won: Women's Suffrage, Devon and the Representation of the People Act 1918. Joint Conference between Devon History Society and the University of Plymouth. Sherwell Centre, North Hill, Plymouth, PL4 8AA.
- **23 Apr 2018**, 13:00-16:00: A New Chapter: Discovering Local Studies in Devon & Somerset, Devon Heritage Centre.
- **28 Apr 2018**, 9:45-16:45: Spring Meeting of the Friends of Devon's Archives at Torquay Museum, 529 Babbacombe Road, Torquay, TQ1 1HG.
- **10 May 2018**, 14:00-16:30: Hidden Histories at the Beaford Archive: Digitising the James Ravilious & Roger Deakins Photographic Archive. Devon History Society Study Day and Workshop, Old Assembly Rooms, Town Hall, 125 East Street, South Molton, EX36 3BU..
- **15 May 2018**, 19:00-21:00: Paul Rendell – Water from the Moor: Plymouth's Water Supply. Devon History Society Lecture in conjunction with the with the Historical Association, Plymouth Branch. University of Plymouth, Theatre 2, Roland Levinsky Building, Drake's Circus, Plymouth, PL4 8AA.
- **19 May 2018**, 10:00-16:00: Exeter Buildings. A day of short talks jointly organised by the Devon Buildings Group and Devon & Cornwall Record Society. United Reformed Church, Southernhay, Exeter
- **2 Jun 2018**, 10:00-16:00: Devon History Society Summer Meeting. Hosted by the Way of the Wharves. The Royal Hotel, Barnstaple Street, Bideford, EX39 4AE.
- **07 Jun 2018**, 19:00-21:00: Paul Auchterlonie – An Exeter Man in Algiers and Mecca: Joseph Pitts (1662-1739). Devon History Society Lecture. Devon Rural Archive, Shilstone, Modbury, PL21 0TW. Booking for this event must be in advance made through the Devon Rural Archive on 01548 830832 or email [abi@dra.uk.net](mailto:abi@dra.uk.net).
- **29 Sep 2018**, *times tba*: Autumn Meeting & AGM of the Friends of Devon Archives at Polsloe Priory, St Katherine's Road, Exeter, EX4 7JY.
- **12 Nov 2018**, 10:30-16:00: Maps and the Devon Landscape. Devon History Society Seminar and Workshop. Devon Heritage Centre.