

KINGSTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY NEWS FOR AUGUST 2014

VISIT TO UGBROOKE HOUSE AND GARDENS

The visit on *Thursday, July 17th* to Ugbrooke House was a great success, we were greeted by a member of staff who took us through the beautiful grounds to the house where our tour began. The main hall was dominated by two enormous tapestries & portraits of the Clifford family through whom we learned a great deal about their colourful history. The house has been in the family since 1564; we heard stories of how the Clifford's were involved in war, politics & religious controversies, tales of Clifford Castles, Clifford of the "CABAL", a secret treaty, a King's mistress, a Cardinal's daughter & tales of espionage, intrigue & bravery. Robert Adams & Capability Brown were commissioned to remodel the house, grounds & garden in the mid 18th century; I think that the Dining Room & the Chapel are absolute gems. We were also blessed on the day of our visit with blue skies & sunshine, in fact an excellent afternoon out for the members who came which culminated with a delicious tea in the Orangery.

OPEN DAY AT FOLLY FARM. BIGBURY'S ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE took place on *Sunday July 13th* & I believe some of our members were able to be there so please if you have any photos of the event bring them along to our next meeting.

We now have a summer break until our AGM on Thursday, October 23rd at 8pm in the Reading Room when we are plan¹ to have memorabilia of the Great War as well as personal stories handed down through families of those who fought in the 1914-18 conflict; Ann Scarratt will be appealing for your help in gathering information or for you to participate, if you wish, in this event.

PUBLICATIONS

Details of our publications including "*Memories of the Second World War 1939-1945*" and "*Backalong with Viv Freeman*" can be obtained from Joyce Masters 01548 810340 or jayceem@talktalk.net Any other information about our Society please contact Jennie Stanley 01548 810819 or stanz@stanz.plus.com or www.kingstonlocalhistory.co.uk or Kingston Parish website www.kingstonparishcouncil.co.uk