

The Malling Society Spring News Letter 2018

From the Vice Chair (acting Chair)



Dear Members,

Another exciting year is upon us and there are lots of things in the pipeline.

I have to report that the newly elected Chair at the November AGM Mrs Molly Potts decided, on 9th January 2018, to step down from Office due to ill health. We wish her a speedy recovery. In the meantime, as Vice Chair I have agreed to stand in as acting Chair until the next AGM in November 2018.

I also have to report the sad passing of our Auditor – Fred Rowland. We all pass on our condolences to his wife and family at this sad time. Bob and Eileen Vago attended the funeral which was on 21st March.

That is all the sad things out of the way.

Our first gathering this year was at Frank's Restaurant, West Malling, High Street for the New Year's Meal it was well attended as always and the meal and company was thoroughly enjoyed 😊. Where shall we go next year then?

Monthly Meetings

I'd been really looking forward to our first speaker this year on **Tuesday 13th March "What the Romans did for us in Kent"**. This was an excellent illustrated talk by Kevin Fromington on the Roman villas along the River Darent from Otford to Dartford. I've spent a lot of my life in and around Dartford and enjoyed seeing what the Romans did do for us in Kent.

Future meetings are listed on the latest Programme of events. If you didn't get a copy at the AGM they are copied below for your convenience, all meetings are held at **West Malling Primary School, Norman Road, West Malling at 8pm.**

Tuesday 17th April

“Maltings and Malthouses in Kent”. An illustrated talk by James Preston featuring the Malting in West Street, West Malling.

Tuesday 15th May (Vote on The Malling Society Constitution)

“Seaside Sauce”. An amusing illustrated talk by Alan Payne on the life and times of Donald McGill, the pioneer of humorous seaside postcards.

Tuesday 19th June

“The History of Oldbury Hill through its Trackways”. An illustrated talk by local historian David Williams.

Tuesday 17th July

“Records of Vagrants, Gypsies, Travellers and Strangers in Kent. An illustrated talk by Gillian Rickard.

Tuesday 18th September

“The Good, the Bad and the Ugly”. An illustrated, amusing story of Kentish Public Libraries by Christoph Bull, tour guide, speaker, historical advisor and Mace Bearer for Gravesham Borough Council.

Tuesday 16th October

“An armchair tour of Greenwich” An illustrated talk, of the heritage and buildings in Greenwich, by qualified Greenwich tour guide Alan Payne.

Tuesday 20th November

AGM, followed by wine and nibbles.

The Twitch Heritage Centre, Douce’s Manor, St. Leonard’s Street, will be open from **Noon to 4pm** (last admission 3.30pm) on Sundays **22nd April, 27th May, 24th June, 22nd July**, Saturday/Sunday **8th – 9th September** (Heritage Open Days) and **11th November 2018** (Remembrance Sunday). There is a new Photographic exhibition for 2018 entitled **‘Blue and Crews’** Featuring West Malling Police (Blues) and West Malling Fire Brigade (Crews). Please come and visit if you are able.

The Malling Society Constitution

The updated Constitution is completed and has been approved by the Executive Committee and will be handed out at the next meeting, **Tuesday 17th April**. Please have a read and if you are in favour of adopting it, there will be a vote at the General Meeting on the 15th May, before our speaker.



General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

Data Protection regulations will be changing in May 2018. This means that we need to tell you how The Malling Society stores and uses your personal information.

Our membership database is held on a secure server and includes only information which you have provided yourself.

- Name
- Postal address
- E-mail
- Telephone number

This information is used to send paper Newsletters and information to those that do not have a computer (i.e. PC, Tablet, Smartphone etc.), or to advise that an electronic Newsletter is available to view and for any other purposes connected with the running of The Malling Society.

If you have setup a standing order for payment of your subscriptions, the name and branch of your bank may held. We may also have a note of the year when you first joined the Society.

To check the information held by The Malling Society for you, please contact the Secretary Barbara Earl by email at TheMallingSociety@gmail.com or phone 01732 847678. Please give her at least 7 working days to get back to you as she is extremely busy.

The information we hold will not be sold or shared with any third party.

Electronic copies of orders for our CDs or Publications from the website are retained on a secure server for 6 years after the end of the relevant financial year. They contain names, addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses of customers but do not contain any information about credit/debit cards or banks details.

Paper copies of orders, membership applications and renewals etc. may be retained for up to a year. After that time, they will be securely disposed of.

Have a great Spring!!

Kind Regards

Chris Mercer (Acting Chair)