

# Southam Heritage Collection

Tithe Place, High St, Southam 01926 613503 Registered Charity No 1173033



## NEWSLETTER

### No 35: Spring/Summer 2025

#### Chairman's Update

We're now well into 2025 and Spring is changing into Summer so it's time to update everyone on how we're coping in our 7<sup>th</sup> year at Tithe Place.

Through good fortune we were able to acquire two rooms in Tithe Place – one exclusively devoted to exhibitions and associated activity, and one providing secure storage and working space for our constantly increasing collection.

We now have over 9,500 items indexed and scanned or photographed, together with over 4,000 photos plus nearly 500 glass slides from the early 1900's and over 3,000 local newspaper cuttings. Quite a change from the 2,500 items we believed were contained in the Collection when we took it over from Rene Cardall back in 2005! There are still many more items to be catalogued, and we continue to receive new and fascinating items from local folk as they discover them.

The one major dark moment during these past 6 months was of course the very sad and unexpected



death of Linda Doyle literally just after Christmas. Linda had been a founder member of the Collection back in 2005 and over the years as she retired took on a larger and larger role in the running of the Collection. She has left an enormous hole in terms of

the work she undertook and the responsibility she happily assumed. We are struggling to cope without her and are desperately looking for one or more persons to assume her responsibilities. If you know of anyone who might be interested, please encourage them to have a chat with us.

#### Management Changes

With the death of Linda and, earlier in 2024, the death of Rowan Parker we found ourselves short

of Trustees and members of our Management Committee. Our Constitution, which is a legal document lodged with the Charity Commission, requires we have a minimum of three trustees, but we were left with only two – myself and Peter Rollins. Fortunately, at a meeting held early in the New Year Cllrs Lee Ellard and Ron Hind both agreed to become Trustees. Both have been members of the Collection for several years now, Lee on the Management Committee and Ron as a volunteer working in the Project Room, and we welcome them to the Management Committee.

We were also able to fill several of the spaces on the Management Committee with Ron Hind and Lynda Pease both agreeing to join.

#### Volunteers

Linda Doyle filled many roles in the Collection, especially in regard to the Display Room. She managed this room on a day by day basis and also did all the forward planning for Exhibitions and interfacing with other people and groups who wanted to use the facility.

Word about Linda's misfortune spread rapidly and much to our surprise a number of people came forward to offer their services. By the end of January we had four new people come on board – three of them for the Display Room and one for the Exhibition Room. This means we now have two people available for each morning that the Display Room is open, apart from one morning each fortnight and we have been able to start cataloguing the 3,300+ local newspaper cuttings which we have had for the best part of ten years now without any real knowledge about the subjects they covered.

In addition, we have another young lady volunteer to look at how we use social media, and Facebook in particular. She is also completing a Master's degree in history, so she has an inbuilt interest in our area of work and hopefully will revitalise our social media presence.

So, all in all, it would seem we are not doing too badly after Linda's death. She took responsibility for all our Displays, and she initiated and executed

*Southam Heritage Collection (incorporating the Cardall Collection and Alan Griffin photographic archive) is registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales (Number 1173033) comprising artefacts, documents, photographs and memorabilia associated with Southam and its surrounding villages. The Collection is housed at Tithe Place in the centre of Southam, where it can be displayed, used and appreciated by residents, visitors, local history societies, schools, reminiscence groups and researchers.*

the ideas and projects to promote the Collection to the public. We are still looking for one or more people to take on these management tasks.

## 200 Club Update

Our 200 Club is a key source of revenue for the Collection and while providing us with a significant proportion of the funds we need to keep the Collection going, it also provides participants with an opportunity to win double the price of their ticket

### 200 Club Winners

2024 - 25



A Keene No. 120  
M Crutchlow No. 90  
J Cleal No. 150  
A Cragg No. 239  
J Ford No. 153  
E Beck No. 60  
T Cadogan No. 6  
R Dyer No. 12  
E Raffell No. 129  
G Smith No. 138  
E Jamieson No. 155



For a chance to win, and support Southam's Heritage Collection, email [SHC200Club@hotmail.com](mailto:SHC200Club@hotmail.com) or visit our web site [www.southamheritage.org](http://www.southamheritage.org). Tickets £5 per year, 12 chances, starting in June, but it's never too late!

each month and £50 every 6 months. As we approach the end of May Sue Nason will be starting to follow up on ticket renewals for people who aren't paying via a standing order. We would obviously like to sell more tickets this year if possible.

ticket, which covers up to 12 monthly draws, at any time in the year. If you would like to buy one, or more, please contact Sue Nason at [SHC200Club@hotmail.com](mailto:SHC200Club@hotmail.com).

Although the year for the 200 Club starts in June you can buy a £5 ticket, which covers up to 12 monthly draws, at any time in the year. If you would like to buy one, or more, please contact Sue Nason at [SHC200Club@hotmail.com](mailto:SHC200Club@hotmail.com).

The first £10 prize draw for the 2025/6 year will take place at the end of June with the first £50 draw taking place at the end of November. Quite a few of our supporters have bought tickets as a small present for their grandchildren either as a reward for some special achievement or as a birthday gift – would you like to do the same?

Sue would very much appreciate it if new members could set up a standing order to pay 200 Club and membership subscriptions automatically each year, since it minimises her workload and also ensures you do not miss out on your opportunity to win.

If you have any questions, you can contact Sue at the email address above or via the application form also available from our web site.

## Christmas Raffle

Once again we put together a series of prizes for our annual Christmas Raffle including a big hamper as the first prize – the hamper is becoming something of a tradition and its contents are growing in size as the years go by so we have decided to keep the hamper box for future years in order to try and stop things getting out of hand. Town Mayor Cllr Angela John kindly drew the

winning tickets. Much to everyone's surprise the winner this year was Cllr Graham Foster – Angela assures me there was no skulduggery involved and it was purely down to Graham's luck. Fortunately Graham called in to collect his prize so we didn't have the problem of previous years in



trying to deliver it all.

## Spring Exhibition

Before her death Linda had drawn up the plans for the Display Room in 2025 and the first exhibition was to feature the 1913 Almanack for Southam.

### Leamington Road

**F. PLUMMER,**  
Boot & Shoe Maker,  
OXFORD STREET, SOUTHAM.  
HAND SEWN BOOTS MADE TO ORDER.  
Best Quality. Stock of Ready-Made Goods of all descriptions. Guaranteed Work.  
REPAIRS promptly attended to.

**E. G. BERRY,**  
FLORIST,  
MILL VIEW, Leamington Road, SOUTHAM.  
Wreaths, Bouquets and Button-Holes  
BY ORDER.  
Cut Flowers, Seeds, Plants, etc.

**W. CARDALL,**  
Coal Merchant, Haulier, &c.,  
OXFORD STREET, SOUTHAM.  
All kinds of Coal at lowest prices for cash, by load or truck.  
A Large Marquee for Hire.

**H. O. MORGAN,**  
Builder and Contractor,  
LEAMINGTON ROAD, SOUTHAM,  
AND HARBURY.  
Estimates given for every description of Work connected with the Trade.

This was a publication printed in Southam and focussing on shops and tradesmen operating in the town. It included many adverts (with some interesting items being sold) – would you imagine “hand sewn boots made to order” being offered in Leamington Road, or going to your local

Coal merchant to hire a Marquee? It also contained very detailed and sometimes surprising information about organisations and key people in Southam and all the surrounding villages. Did you know Southam had a Debating Society? The second half of the Almanack covers topics of a countryside perspective. This Exhibition, including a copy of the Almanack for you to read, will be on show until the Warwickshire Open Studies event that starts on June 21<sup>st</sup>.

## Southam Lions

Each year Southam Lions run a fund raising event on the May bank Holiday Monday at the Bowling Green Inn. We like to support the Lions in the tremendous work they do in raising funds for local



charities, and indeed we have benefitted from these in years gone by. We normally run a Tombola for this event. Usually Linda would take care of this event finding and collecting all the prizes, labeling them up with tickets and then manning the stall on the day.



This year we were lucky to have the wife of one of our members offer to take on the role in Linda's place. It was a lovely day spoiled only slightly by what seemed like at times, hurricane force winds. We were quite concerned that our gazebo

might actually take off and we would be running down Welsh Road trying to recapture it. In the end it turned out to be a great success, both for us and for the Lions with a massive number of people attending and we raised £160 for the Collection.

## VE Day – 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

It seems only yesterday when we were commemorating the First World War centenary but this year the focus has been, for the first time, on a very significant event in the Second World War when Germany

surrendered to the Allied Forces. Very few of those who were serving in the Allied forces at that time are still alive and it was decided that the country should make a concerted effort to commemorate the event in a coordinated manner by lighting a peace candle or beacon at 9:15 on the evening of May 8<sup>th</sup>.



In support of this commemoration the Collection was asked to find documents and items relating to WW2 and to display them at a Mother's Union afternoon tea party and the Town Annual General Meeting, Mayor Making and Peace Candle lighting all to be held in St James Church on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

We were delighted to be able to support these events.

In addition we displayed other WW2 related posters together with the Union flag and bunting in our High Street windows.

## Warwickshire Open Studios Arts & Crafts Trail 2025

Following on from the success of last year we will be supporting the annual Arts and Crafts trail which has been going on for many years in Warwickshire. Southam has had very little participation until recently, but last year was a big success and we had a large number of visitors, many of whom came from faraway places and who had never seen our exhibitions before or even knew of our existence.



The exhibition will again cover two weeks and three weekends over a fortnight from June 21<sup>st</sup> through to July 6<sup>th</sup> inclusive.

## Summer Exhibition

Following on from our participation in the Warwickshire Open Studios event we are planning to re-run an Exhibition which was originally planned for 2020 but which had to be taken down when covid lockdowns came into force only two weeks after the opening.

We had worked with the Warwickshire Constabulary History Group and the Exhibition and Displays were a joint effort. We have been fortunate to re-establish contact with the two men who were involved previously and they have agreed to help us in the same way as five years ago. So we're looking forward to a very interesting exhibition.

## The Southam Timeline

For some time, we have had a permanent display in place around the upper part of the Exhibition Room walls, describing significant dates in the history of Southam.

We are now producing a book entitled 'Southam - The Timeline of a Rural Warwickshire Town' which will expand on the information in the Timeline display, by providing much more detail about the town's history. We hope this book will become the definitive guide to the history of Southam and will be an interesting read for anyone who wants to know more about our town. It will be printed and available later this year.



## **General Information:**

Southam Heritage Collection belongs to the people of Southam. It incorporates the Cardall Collection, the Alan Griffin photographic archive and other items donated by local people. It is managed by Trustees and a Committee. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in the history of Southam and the surrounding area. If you would like to discuss how you can support our work, please telephone the Chairman, Bernard on 07710 012052 or call in to see us when we are open. Alternatively, you can visit our website [www.southamheritage.org](http://www.southamheritage.org) email us on: [southamheritage@hotmail.com](mailto:southamheritage@hotmail.com) or message us via our Facebook page. (If you are a Facebook user, please 'Like' and follow our page and share our posts to help spread the word.)

## **Exhibition Opening Times at Tithe Place, High Street, Southam:**

Our exhibition room is in the main atrium of Tithe Place, High Street opposite the Library entrance. We are open on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday mornings from 10am to 12 noon. We also have two large exterior windows with heritage displays that are regularly updated.

## **Volunteering, Membership, Donations:**

If you would like to become a member of the group, please contact us and we will send you an application form. Once a member, you could then let us know if you are able to volunteer any time or skills, but please note, volunteering is not compulsory. The application form includes a Gift Aid Declaration that will enable us to reclaim the tax paid on your subscription or donation. Membership is renewable on 1st October each year. Donations are welcome at any time! Cheques should be made payable to 'Southam Heritage Collection' or paid direct to our Lloyds Account Sort Code: 30 99 13 Account No: 31344868.

## **Southam "Walk and Talk":**

We can organise a short, guided tour of Southam on level footpaths to see some of its most interesting buildings, and hear something about their history, followed by an opportunity for tea and chat at a town centre venue. Normally available for groups of up to a maximum of 20 people, the Walk and Talk lasts from 1 to 2 hours and costs £5 per person. Contact: Bernard on 07710 012052.

## **Presentations, Talks, Exhibitions:**

We can attend one of your group meetings or visit your premises and give a presentation and talk about aspects of Southam's history tailored to your interests. Contact Bernard on 07710 012052 to discuss your requirements. (A donation will be requested, by agreement.)

If you have any artefacts, documents or photographs that you would be prepared to loan for one of our forthcoming exhibitions we would love to hear from you.

## **200 Club:**

Our 200 Club lottery runs from June to May each year. Tickets cost just £5 per annum, and you can join at any time. Your numbers are automatically entered into each monthly draw. The cash prize is £10 each month, increasing to a maximum of £50 in November and May depending on the number of tickets sold. All proceeds go to help with our running costs. Enquiries to our 200 Club Organiser, Sue at [shc200club@hotmail.com](mailto:shc200club@hotmail.com).

## **Cards, Books, Photographs and Prints:**

We have a growing archive of photographs of Old Southam and surrounding area, and copies are available to purchase. We also sell various other items to raise funds, including greetings cards, calendars, a range of local history and second-hand books and other merchandise. You can now purchase some of these items online via our website, and we do take credit / debit cards as well as cash in our Exhibition Room, or you can go to our SumUp online shop at <https://shc.sumup.link> and purchase via credit/debit card.

***Thank you for reading this Newsletter.***

***Please feel free to pass it on to your friends, relatives and colleagues.***

***An electronic copy is available on our web site.***



# Southam Heritage Collection

Tithe Place Community Rooms, High Street, Southam CV47 0HB

[www.southamheritage.org](http://www.southamheritage.org)

Email: [southamheritage@hotmail.com](mailto:southamheritage@hotmail.com)

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / DONATION FORM / GIFT AID DECLARATION

Full Name: .....

(please print)

Address: .....

Postcode: .....

Telephone: .....

Email: .....

*I would like to become a member of the Southam Heritage Collection OR renew my annual Membership, and I enclose herewith my subscription.*

*(Current Subs are: £10 per person per annum, payable on 1<sup>st</sup> October each year)*

*I would like to donate the following amount to support the objectives of the Southam Heritage Collection.*

£

£

Signed: .....

Date: .....

**Please return this form with your payment to:**

**Southam Heritage Collection, Tithe Place, High Street, Southam, Warks, CV47 0HB.**

- Payments by internet banking or standing order to:  
**Lloyds Account Sort Code: 30 99 13 Account No: 31344868 Ref: (your name).**
- Cheques payable to: Southam Heritage Collection.

**Membership is renewable on 1<sup>st</sup> October each year.** Many thanks for your support.

Please tick this box if you require a receipt: ☐

## GIFT AID DECLARATION



*giftaid it*

If you pay Income Tax, the Southam Heritage Collection can claim back the tax you have paid on your subscriptions and donations. In order for us to claim this tax back, please complete the following Gift Aid Declaration:

Please treat as Gift Aid donations all qualifying gifts of money

today ☐ in the past 4 years ☐ in the future ☐

Please tick all boxes you wish to apply, and sign the Declaration below.

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give.

Signed: ..... Date: .....

Please notify the charity if you want to cancel this declaration, change your name or home address or no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

*Note: If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.*

*The information you give on this form is stored securely and is not shared with third parties; it is only used for the purposes of your membership of Southam Heritage Collection. Our Privacy Policy can be viewed in full on [www.southamheritage.org](http://www.southamheritage.org)*