

Horsham Society

with Ron Bates



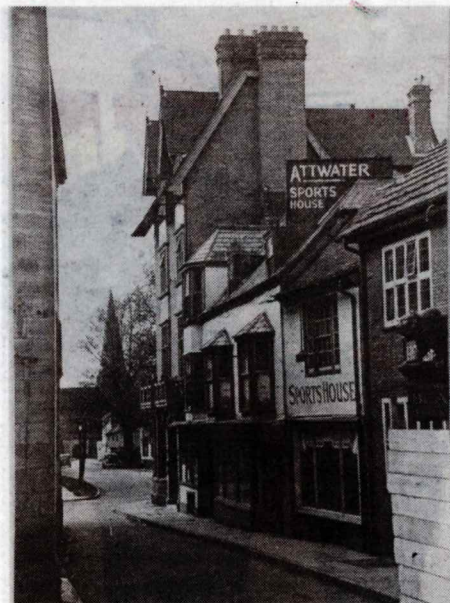
Season of Heritage Guided Walks

The season of Horsham Society Heritage Guided Walks through the history of Horsham town centre starts again on Wednesday the 4th April 2018 with the final planned Walk being Sunday the 30th September 2018. Details can be found on the internet by searching for Horsham Heritage Guided Walks.

The walks need no booking and take place every Sunday and Wednesday with a start at 2.30pm. The meeting place and start of the walk is outside the Horsham Museum at 9, Causeway RH12 1HE, which is also where it ends. Additional walks can be arranged for small groups by prior arrangement by phoning 01403 261905.

The walk explains that the history of Horsham starts back in 947AD as a place where horses were held and bred. At this time it was deep in the forest and was an outlier of the Saxon Manor of Washington. After the conquest by William of Normandy all lands were controlled by the de Braose family from Bramber Castle.

Horsham became a Borough around 1200 and in 1295 the owners of the 52 burgrave plots of land around the Carfax elected two



The route takes in Market Square.

Members of Parliament. The owners of the burgrave plots controlled the elections, votes were bought and sold. This led to rivalry between the Ingram Lords Irwin family and

the Howard Dukes of Norfolk family and because of this Horsham became known as one of the rotten boroughs.

The route of the walk takes in the Market House in Market Square which originally was an open arcade market for poultry and butter. The building was also used as an Assize Court by Judges on the southern circuit by boarding up the openings. The walk proceeds through Pump Alley and takes in East Street and Denne Road regarded as the original crossroads of north-south routes following the sandstone ridge trackway and the east-west route through the vast forest of the Weald.

The Walk also takes in the Carfax with a link to Michael Caine, West Street, Lynd Cross, the Forum, St Mary's Church and Hewell's Manor opposite the museum where the walk finishes.

There are already additional walks arranged for groups from the University of the Third Age.

Another special walk is the mid-summer Annual Riverside Walk which is to be held on Saturday 14th July 2018 starting at 10.00am from the Horsham Rugby Club car park in Hammerpond Lane. This year it will proceed clockwise passing through

Chesworth Farm with a rest break and entertainment at the Warnham Nature Reserve.

The walk continues by special arrangement through the Warnham Nature Reserve and out into Pondtail Road from where it follows its regular route to New House Farm, here there are facilities for a rest and refreshments. The last leg takes everyone back to the Horsham Rugby Club. There are stewards along the route and a free minibus service to take those who wish to return to their own transport early. The contact details for the Annual Riverside Walk is - horshamriversidewalk@gmail.com or mobile-07780 701184.

Everyone is welcome on both the Heritage Guided Walks and the Annual Riverside Walk so why not join one or both this summer.

The Horsham Society is concerned about the past, present and future of the town. It seeks to promote good planning and design for the built environment and open spaces. Membership of the Horsham Society is open to anyone who shares these concerns. For more information, visit the website www.horshamsociety.org or phone 01403 259038.