

PROGRAMME 2013

- Friday
February 15th **OPEN FORUM**
District / Neighbourhood Plans and other issues facing East Grinstead, with a talk.
- Friday
March 15th **THE KEYMER TILE WORKS**
by FRED AVERY; Founder member of Burgess Hill Local History Society, who has written booklets on a local building firm, manufacturers of building materials and books on Burgess Hill's past. He is curator of the Burgess Hill Heritage Centre.
- Friday
April 19th **IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF SHACKLETON**
by Wing Commander P. COULCHER, Rtd, who was a fighter pilot between 1958 and 1992. He now lectures and has written several books.
- Saturday 10am-
April 20th 1pm **TOWN & COUNTRY HERITAGE: WEST HOATHLY TO EAST GRINSTEAD**
Walk from St Margaret's Parish Church, West Hoathly led by CHRIS WHEATLEY
(For help with transport, please call 01342 321525)
- Sunday
May 5th 2.30pm **19th & 20th CENTURY EAST GRINSTEAD; TOWN TRAIL 2**
A guided walk starting from High Street War Memorial, led by ANGELA COLE
- Monday 10am-
May 6th 4pm **MAY FAIR: SOCIETY STALL IN HIGH STREET**
A chance to buy second-hand books, home-made jams, cakes and the Society's publications
- Friday
May 17th **WILLIAM de WARREN; THE BUILDER OF LEWES CASTLE**
by JOANNA WILKINS, who works for Sussex Archaeological Society conducting educational sessions and research.
- Sunday
June 2nd 2.30pm **EAST GRINSTEAD'S VICTORIAN HERITAGE; TOWN TRAIL 3**
Walk starting from Chequer Mead Arts Centre, led by CHRIS WHEATLEY
(For further information, please call 01342 321525)
- Friday
June 21st **THE STORY OF CRYSTAL PALACE**
by IAN GLEDHILL. He has had a varied career including TV, theatre, engineering, travel and tourism. He now divides his time between giving lectures and The Volk's Electric Railway.
- Friday
July 19th **A POLICEMAN'S LOT...CAN BE QUITE AN INTERESTING ONE**
by NEIL SADLER. He spent 30 years in the Police and spent time in national and international police training in Hong Kong, Abu Dhabi and Trinidad.
- Sat. & Sun.
Sept. 14th & 15th **NATIONAL HERITAGE OPEN DAYS, CONCLUDING WITH A GUIDED TOWN WALK** starting in St Swithun's Church at 2.30pm, Sunday, Sept. 15th, led by CHRIS WHEATLEY. (For info. see Society website/local library, or, please call 01342 321525).
- Friday
September 20th **CHARACTERS – WACKEY, WEIRD AND WONDERFUL**
by CHRIS MCCOOEY. He is an experienced and amusing speaker on a varied selection of subjects, nearly all involving brave, famous, infamous, or, scandalous people.
- Saturday 9am
Sept. 21st **LONDON OPEN HOUSE: SMALL GROUP OUTING BY TRAIN**
Meet at East Grinstead Railway Station for a day excursion to see some notable buildings
(For further information, please call 01342 321525)
- Friday
October 18th **46th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**
Followed by a talk
- Friday
November 15th **TRANSPORT – A MAGIC LANTERN PRESENTATION**
by PETER GILLES. A talk, using technology from a bygone era, illustrating the changes in transport over the past 130 years.
- Friday
December 6th **NEWHAVEN FORT – THEN AND NOW**
by IAN EVEREST. He became the manager of the fort in 1987 and prepared the scheduled monument for opening to visitors the following year. He left this post in 2001 and entered local government. Since retiring he researches topics for his talks.

Friday meetings start at 7.30pm in Main Hall, East Court, with a charge of £1.00/member for coffee.
Non-members welcome at £1.50/person for Friday meetings and £2/person for other events, children free.

For evening meetings information contact Programme Secretary, Tel: 01444 482576, Email: bowley902@btinternet.com
or, Vice-Chairman, listed overleaf.

Website: www.eastgrinsteadsociety.org

Annual adult society subscription of £10 includes a periodic newsletter with current notices
and a bulletin with historical information. Application form on website, or from Membership Secretary.

(Illustration: St Margaret's Convent, engraving from The Architect, January 3, 1880, from Ian Aitken, 2011)

PRESIDENT – Mrs Margaret Collins DL

CHAIRMAN Mr N J Beale
10 Austen Close
East Grinstead
RH19 1RZ
Tel 01342 326767

**VICE-CHAIRMAN
& SECRETARY** Dr C J V Wheatley
4 Portland Road
East Grinstead
RH19 4DZ
Tel: 01342 321525

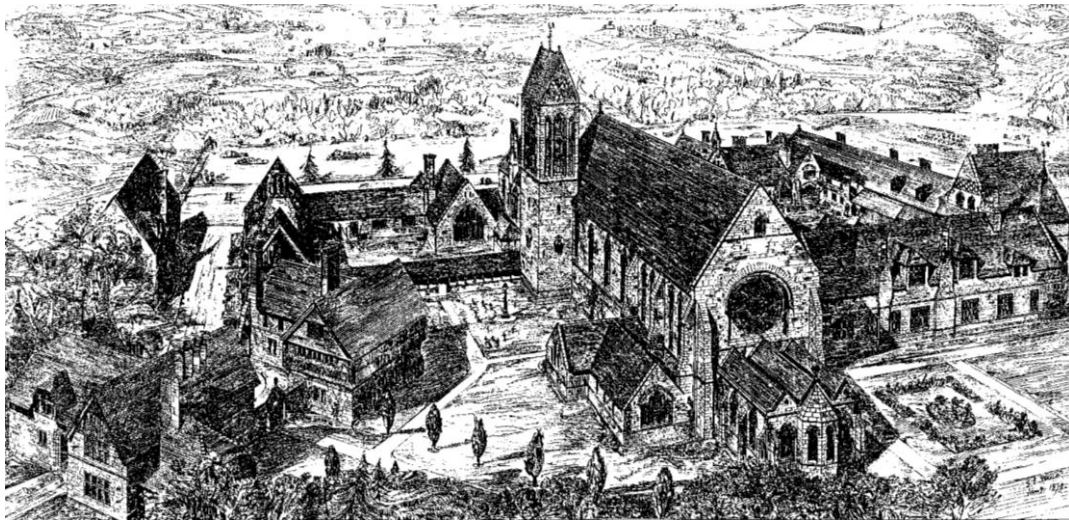
HON.TREASURER Mr M R Lyons
7 Durkins Road,
East Grinstead
RH19 2ER
Tel: 01342 325886

**MEMBERSHIP
& PROGRAMME** Mr C V Bowley
2 Eastern Road
Lindfield
RH16 2LP
Tel: 01444 482576

COMMITTEE MEMBERS	Mr J W Bridle	Strategic plans
	Mrs J. Roberts	Community and culture
	Mr R. Maynard	Built environment
	Mrs B. Stovold	Strategic plans and media

The East Grinstead Society is an independent residents' association, which exists to maintain and enhance the town's distinctive character, by monitoring future planning applications against existing buildings and amenities in the town and surroundings. Regular meetings are held throughout the year, on local topics, with guided walks and visits to features of interest reflecting the town's culture.

THE EAST GRINSTEAD SOCIETY 2013



Old St Margaret's Convent

Birds-eye view, from an 1879 engraving, by G E Street the architect. Formerly home to Society of St Margaret, founded by Dr J M Neale and built between 1865 and 1909. By 1881 there were 201 inhabitants; 51 Staff, 6 "Industrial" Girl scholars, 69 "Orphanage" scholars and 60 St Agnes School scholars. The Chapel tower has a distinctive saddle-backed roof. Misericords decorated with birds and animals flank the nave, with flecked alabaster in a reredos by Thomas Earp. Fine encaustic terracotta and black and white tiles on the floor of the Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament include an image of St Margaret of Antioch, patron of the Convent, standing on a dragon. The buildings, now Grade I listed, have been sensitively converted into 31 individual apartments, without disrupting the coherence of the original architecture, probably G E Street's finest work, to give a striking village-like atmosphere to the present private estate.