PROGRAMME 2015

Friday
February 20th
OPEN FORUM
District / Neighbourhood Plans and other issues facing East Grinstead, with a talk by Alan Tyler, Director and former Chairman of East Grinstead War Memorial Ltd.

Friday
March 20th
THE TOWN PREPARATIONS FOR WORLD WAR II
by MICHAEL LEPPARD, our past President and long-term enthusiastic Bulletin editor, who will include results of his research of local records.

Friday
April 17th
HIDDEN COUNTRY HOUSES IN SUSSEX
by GORDON GOULD, of Ashdown Ramblers Association, with a visual presentation of photographs taken whilst walking in Sussex.

Monday 10am-
May 4th 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 15th
QUAKERS IN SUSSEX
by GILLIAN PIT, Chair of Crawley Museum Society, who has special interest in Quakers.

Sunday
June 7th 2.30pm
19th & 20th CENTURY EAST GRINSTEAD: UPDATED TOWN TRAIL 2
A guided walk starting from the High Street Bookshop, led by CHRIS WHEATLEY

Friday
June 19th
CHAINSAW SCULPTURES
by DAVID WATSON, of Woodland Products, a woodturner and member of West Sussex Woodturners based at Woodland Studio, near West Hoathly.

Friday
July 17th
LOST VILLAGES OF SUSSEX
by PETER HARRIS of Steyning and formerly active in the Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies of which we are a member.

Sunday
2.30pm-
Sept. 13th 3.30pm
NATIONAL HERITAGE OPEN DAYS (HODs), A GUIDED TOWN WALK
Starting in St Swithun’s Church, led by CHRIS WHEATLEY, for more info. see HODs or Society website or local library.

Friday
September 18th
BEING A GENTLEMAN IN 16TH CENTURY WEST SUSSEX
by CAROLINE ADAMS previously of the County Records Office and now freelancing.

Saturday 9am-
Sept. 19th
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 16th
48th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Followed by a talk

Friday
November 20th
THE WORK OF THE RNLI
by DAVID COGGAN. Including how it has been involved in rescue missions on the Sussex coast.

Friday
December 4th
BELGIANS IN SUSSEX
by SALLY WHITE, curator of the Worthing Museum and Art Gallery.

For evening meetings information contact Programme Secretary, Tel: 01342 325449,
Email: shirley@shirleyking.wanadoo.co.uk
or, Vice-Chairman, listed overleaf.
Website: www.eastgrinsteadsociety.org

Annual adult society subscription of £10 includes a bi-annual bulletin, with original articles of local interest and a newsletter, with current notices
Application form on website, or from Hon. Treasurer.

(Illustration: Sketch of Sir Archibald McIndoe and Patient from statue in East Grinstead, by CJV Wheatley © 2014)
The East Grinstead Society is an independent association, which exists to maintain and enhance the town’s distinctive character, by monitoring future planning applications against buildings and amenities in the town and surroundings. Evening meetings are held during the year, with guided walks reflecting the town’s heritage, participation in cultural events and recognition of notable members and residents.

THE EAST GRINSTEAD SOCIETY 2015

Sir Archibald McIndoe, C.B.E., F.R.C.S. 1900 - 1960

On June 9, 2014, H.R.H. Anne, The Princess Royal, unveiled a striking bronze statue on Sackville College Green to the pioneering New Zealand plastic surgeon who founded a Centre for Plastic and Jaw Surgery at the Queen Victoria Hospital in 1940. He treated badly burned faces and hands during World War II and promoted the importance of re-integrating those injured back into normal life, with help from Neville and Elaine Blond and support of local residents. This resulted in East Grinstead being known as “the town that did not stare”. Sir Archibald called his patients Guinea Pigs and by 1944 the Guinea Pig Club, with its distinctive emblem, shown above, had 649 members. After the war he returned to private practice. His ashes were buried in St Clement Danes, the RAF Church, in London. The statue is by Martin Jennings whose father, Michael, was treated by Sir Archibald after being badly burnt when his tank was hit in 1944. The statue cost £175,000, which is not yet fully subscribed, so further donations are being sought by the Blond-McIndoe Research Foundation: www.blondmcindoe.org.