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BLHS Newsletter

The monthly newsletter for Bicester Local History Society

Oxford Botanic Garden Talk

Oxford Botanic Garden is the oldest in Britain, founded in 1621. Jacob Bobart, the 'German Prince of Plants' was the first keeper, famed both for his horticultural skill and his eccentricities. His sons were Jacob, 'horticultural sapient King' and Tilleman, overseer of the grounds of the new Blenheim Palace, while a later descendant was celebrated in fact and fiction as Oxford's 'Classical Coachman'. Also featured in this talk, by Mark Davies, are some of the important visitors and events associated with the garden, including Ashmole, apes, aeronauts, and 'Alice': a talk about people, not plants!

This talk, by Mark Davies, will be held in the Clifton Centre on Monday 19th June at 7:30pm.



Dates For Your Diary

Oxford Botanic Garden talk

19th June @ 7:30pm

St Edburg's Church Summer Fete

1st July

July newsletter submission deadline

2nd July

Bicester Advertiser local history article

6th July

Over the Hills to Glory talk

17th July @ 7:30pm

Over the Hills to Glory Talk

The Story of the Ascott Martyrs

Why, in May 1873, did exchanges at the gate into a bean field between two young farm labourers and a group of women from the village of Ascott-under-Wychwood, lead to the imprisonment in Oxford Gaol of 16 women, and two babies? The magistrates' decision provoked a riot in Chipping Norton, featured widely in the national press and resulted in questions being asked in Parliament. This talk explores the story of the Martyrs and what it reveals about the lives of the agricultural labourer and his family.

This talk, by Carol Anderson, will be held in the Clifton Centre on Monday 17th July at 7:30pm.



Committee & Contacts

Editor:

Matthew Hathaway
editor@blhs.org.uk

Website:

www.blhs.org.uk

Committee Members:

Bob Hessian (*Chairman*)
chairman@blhs.org.uk
01869 350662

Sally James (*Treasurer*)
01869 243804

Mark Lewandowski (*Minutes Secretary*)
John Roberts (*Membership Officer*)
Matthew Hathaway
Peter Crook

Meetings Address:

The Clifton Centre
Ashdene Road
Bicester
OX26 2BH

Postal Address:

BLHS c/o Sally James
14 George Street
Bicester