

HANLEY MATTERS

the newsletter of
The Hanleys' Village Society

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Summer
2003

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FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES

31 August
Dowsing around
Hanley Swan. Peter
Ewence will lead a
walk leaving the
Village Hall at 2.30
pm.

26 September
The Severn - Quay
to The Hanleys. Don
Shuker will give a
talk on the River
Severn and its
relationship to The
Hanleys: Village
Hall, 7.30 pm.

24 October
The Society's first
Annual General
meeting will be held
in the Village Hall at
7.30 pm.

28 November
Potters Hanley - in
your garden. Peter
Ewence will give a
talk on pottery in the
parish: Village Hall,
7.30 pm.

VILLAGE SOCIETY FORMED

Over 50 people attended the inaugural meeting of a village society on 13 June. Initiated by Peter Ewence, it followed a successful History Weekend held in the Village Hall earlier this year.

Peter Ewence pointed out that the parish of Hanley Castle, which incorporates the villages of Hanley Castle and Hanley Swan, was an area with a rich history.

Romans, Saxons and Danes had lived here and there was evidence of Saxon and medieval villages. There were potteries and landed estates. The River Severn had played an important part in the development of trade.

The parish covered the area known as Malvern Chase with its woodland interests and hunting. It was located halfway between the two camps in the Civil War. Last but not least, it had a royal castle.

The meeting elected a committee with Ian Bowles in the chair. Nick Lechmere agreed to be President of the Society.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

In a draft constitution to be voted on at the Annual General Meeting, the main aims and objectives of the Society have been identified as:

- to be the focal point for the heritage of The Hanleys;
- to carry out research to supplement existing historical knowledge;
- to hold talks, courses and activities related to the interests of members;
- to be the custodian of anything of historical interest related to The Hanleys and to establish an archive of historical information;
- to arrange exhibitions and publish information;
- to supply lecturers to local schools and other societies;
- to make the Society's archive available for research.

MEMBERSHIP

The Society currently has 46 members. Anyone interested in joining should contact the Secretary for a registration form. The subscription is £10 for the first member of a family and £5 for any subsequent member.