



Ropley History Network and Archive

The History of Ropley Coffee Rooms - A Time Line

After delving through documents and images we have compiled an up-to-date time line of the history of our Coffee Rooms. Using old posters, wills, court judgements and newspaper cuttings, we tell of its fluctuating fortunes – it's not a dry read!



The Coffee Rooms, in Church Street, were also known as The Reading Rooms or The Institute and are an integral part of Ropley's social life - past and present. Follow the link to our website to view the time line with links to images and documents that identify important moments in its history. Many thanks to Keith Reed for wadding through many documents to help complete the timeline.

<https://www.ropleyhistory.org.uk/about/legal-and-technical/the-history-of-the-coffee-rooms-a-timeline>

The History of Ropley Horticultural Society - Gardening enthusiasts and supporting local organisations

Founded in 1895 the Ropley Horticultural Society started out as The Ropley and West Tisted Cottage Garden Allotment Society and its first flower show was held at Ropley Grove on the Petersfield Road. This fascinating article tells the life of this local organisation run by green fingered enthusiasts while fundraising for many local causes.

It also asks for your help in naming many people in some of the photographs. Please go to our Homepage to read the article and see the images of people you may recognize.

<https://www.ropleyhistory.org.uk/>



Researching Genealogy for Ropley and the surrounding areas

We have added some helpful advice and links about researching genealogy in the local area and what is available on our website. Go to our Resources page <https://www.ropleyhistory.org.uk/category/resources>

Whats On! - History Events and Talks coming to Ropley and the locality

For further details about these events go to Events on our Home page.

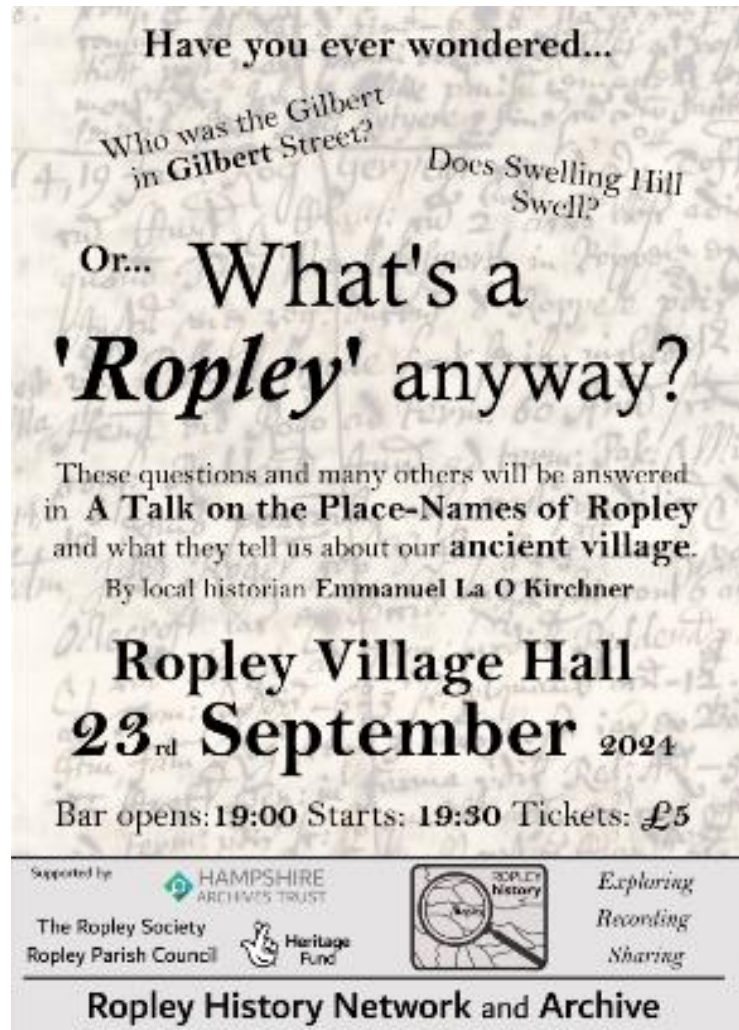
Please join us!

Our next event is on Monday
23rd September

'What's a 'Ropley' anyway' –

A talk about *Local Place Names*, by local historian Manni Kirchner and what they tell us about the meanings behind them and our local ancient history

Tickets on the door - £5. (card or cash). Doors and Bar open at 7pm. Start 7.30



Have you ever wondered...
Who was the Gilbert in Gilbert Street?
Does Swelling Hill Swell?

Or... **What's a 'Ropley' anyway?**

These questions and many others will be answered in **A Talk on the Place-Names of Ropley** and what they tell us about our ancient village.
By local historian Emmanuel La O Kirchner

Ropley Village Hall
23rd September 2024
Bar opens: 19:00 Starts: 19:30 Tickets: £5

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Hampshire Records office - Winchester Archives – What's on!

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/librariesandarchives/archives/events>

Winchester on Film – Online event - Screening of archive footage of Winchester 16 September 2024 6pm to 7pm

Test Valley on Film – Romsey Town Hall Live screening with music

19 September 2024 6:30pm to 8:30pm

Join Hampshire Archives at Romsey Town Hall for a screening of local film footage covering the Test Valley, with a wonderful live musical accompaniment from acclaimed silent film musician Stephen Horne



Showcasing Hampshire History - Heritage Open Day - Winchester

Hampshire Archives Trust are holding a **free-entry event** with exhibits and talks on local history, **SHOWCASING HAMPSHIRE HISTORY**, being held in Winchester on **14 September, 10:00am-4:00pm**.

It's as part of the Heritage Open Day programme and a great opportunity to see what's happening and meet other local historians.

The venue is the Ashburton Hall in the HCC headquarters, with entrance from Sussex Street, on the east side, between the Westgate at one end and the Hampshire Record Office at the other. There is a public car park with card or cash payment!

What's happening on our website

We have some new opening images on the homepage of our website – do have a look. We are continually adding new posts that are easily found below.

There will also be the latest Oral History interview for you to listen to with photographs and supporting information

<https://www.ropleyhistory.org.uk/>



Current Articles and Future Articles *shown on our homepage*

- **The History of the Coffee Rooms** - A time line including legal documents, letters and other related images.
- **Oral History – coming soon** - Local man, Roy Wyeth talks about his life and family living in Ropley
- **The History of the horticultural Society** - including images of past and present
- **Historic Buildings in the area** - we are endeavouring to bring together as much information as possible about buildings that are historic or have importance in the area. If you have anything that may contribute to this growing collection - documents, images or some oral history other than what is in some of the local publications – please do get in touch
- **The Old School House on the Petersfield Road.** We are bringing together various existing and recently contributed images and documents to build a history of this historic building so if you can add any information about the building as a schoolhouse or later inhabitants – please do get in touch
- **Policing in Ropley-** have you any memories or images of policing in Ropley?
- **Historic Maps** - We are adding new images and sources all the time
<https://www.ropleyhistory.org.uk/village-history/historic-maps/historic-maps-of-ropley-and-the-local-area-2>
- **Found anything interesting?** Have you found something ancient, rare or just interesting looking? This article tells us this is not a rarity and perhaps what you found is really interesting – if so we can advise what you should do with it, how to register it etc.

If you think you might be able to contribute some more information to any of the above, please do get in touch and share. To see these and all our other articles, new collections of images of documents, photos and artefacts, please go to our easily found Ropley History website.

Getting involved

Can you offer your time – however much you feel you can give – to help us develop and grow the archive? Any contribution would help us preserve our local history. Do you have any local history documents that you would like to share or need some help with? Please get in touch or come along to our fortnightly Thursday archive workshop sessions.

Thursdays 2-4pm - in the back Hall or the small hall of the Village Hall.

- September 12th and 26th
- October 10th and 24th
- November 7th and 21st

Thank you for your continued interest, involvement and support
Ropley History Network and Archive Steering Group
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