

Gravesend with talks in the morning on the area's long and varied history and in the afternoon after lunch a choice of visits to places of local interest.

*Details will be sent out to members in March.*

**Tuesday 25th May 1999**

### JOSEPH CONRAD AND THE BISHOPSBOURNE YEARS

Born of revolutionary Polish nationalists, from his earliest days Conrad lived an adventurous life, to become an English mariner and author of international fame. Dr Keith Carabine, Chair of the Joseph Conrad Society of Great Britain, gives an entertaining and anecdotal insight into the man who spent the last and most famous years of his life at Oswalds. In death Conrad was no less interesting and his passing was marked with a notable funeral, and a most unusual gravestone which can be seen in the Canterbury city cemetery.

7.30 pm Conrad Hall, Bishopsbourne.

Members £1, Non-members £2 Including light refreshments.

Transport can be arranged.

*Sunday 13th*  
**Saturday 12th June 1999**

### VISIT TO QUEX HOUSE, GARDENS & POWELL-COTTON MUSEUM

Set in 250 acres of parkland and gardens, including a Victorian walled garden, Quex House was built as a Regency gentleman's country residence, grew to become the Victorian mansion seen today and is home to the fifth generation of the Powell-Cotton family. Their most famous member was Major PGH Powell-Cotton who from big game hunting went on to become a pioneering ethnographer studying tribal customs and beliefs and resulting in a magnificent collection of artifacts and archives at Quex of world importance. Fascinated by the exotic creatures he saw on his travels he set about preserving rare specimens, and over 500 were arranged in a series of impressive dioramas in specially built galleries. The house also contains oriental and period furniture, fine rugs and porcelain, family portraits and an extensive collection of silver, clocks and memorabilia. Enjoy a cream tea before exploring the gardens.

Meet 2.00 pm Bridge playing field car park, Patrixbourne Road

Members £6, Non-members £7.25, Children £5.25 including cream tea.

Bridge & District History Society was established in 1995 to promote interest in aspects of local history in and around the villages of Barham, Bekesbourne, Bishopsbourne, Bridge, Kingston and Patrixbourne. County-wide interests are served through membership of the Kent History Federation which meets quarterly at County Hall, Maidstone.

Visits are informal and sociable and transport can be arranged - see ticket counterfoils.

Membership for the season September to June is £5 single, £7.50 double and £2.50 for each additional person at the same address. Newsletters and event tickets (without obligation) are sent out alternate months.

#### COMMITTEE

Chairman John Bishop  
Tel (01227) 831517

Secretary Bill Dawson  
Tel (01227) 831044

Treasurer Maurice Raraty

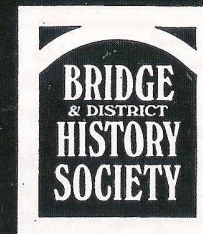
Millenium Project Co-ordinator  
John Corfield  
Tel (01227) 831992

Janet Bishop

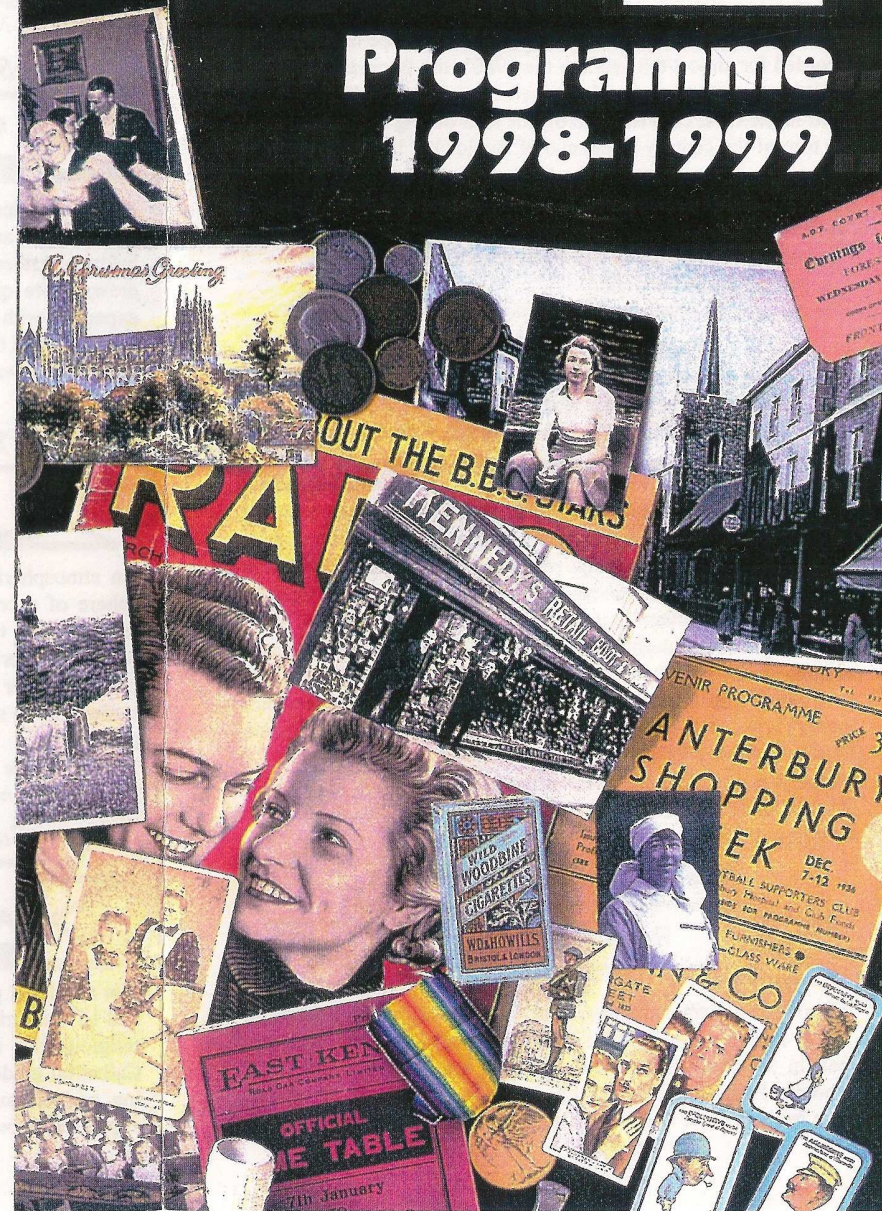
Jenny Vye

*Written, designed, produced and distributed by Bill Dawson*

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# Programme 1998-1999



*Tuesday 22nd September 1998*

**TELL US ABOUT WHEN YOU WERE YOUNG**

Changes to everyday life in the latter part of the twentieth century have been enormous, so that elderly people have memories of housekeeping, work and play in their youth that are almost unbelievably different from these activities today. From landowners and farmers to servants and labourers Anne Pope talked to and recorded for almost ten years in the 1980's the fascinating memories of people of all walks about their experiences of life as it was lived in the rural communities of this area during the period from the turn of the century to the eve of World War II. Tell Us about When You Were Young is the book that resulted from the vast amount of material she collected and is a tribute to the so-called 'ordinary' people who would otherwise have passed unremarked. Signed copies of the book will be available from the author.

*7.30 pm Bridge Village Hall.*

*Members £1, Non-members £2 Including light refreshments*

*Saturday 10th October 1998*

**DAY OUT AT BATTLE ABBEY & BATTLE OF HASTINGS 1066**

The day at Battle starts with a visit to Buckleys Yesterday's World to experience aspects of everyday life from 1850 to 1950 including many re-created shops and room settings. Then on the Battle Abbey site\* at 3.00 pm the re-enactment of The Battle of Hastings 1066, a crucial moment in the history of the nation that took place over 900 years ago performed with authentic period costumes and weaponry. Or visit the charming town of Battle close by. \*Entry to English Heritage Battle Abbey site with discount voucher including the Battle of Hastings 1066 - Adults £3.20, Pensioners £2.40, Children £1.60, all including 20% discount.

*Depart Bridge 10.00 am. (Return Bridge approx. 7.00 pm)*

*B&DHS ticket prices: Members £5.00, Non-members £7.50*

*Children £3.50.*

*Tuesday 24th November 1998*

**ROMAN KENT**

From the time when Julius Caesar first landed on these shores in 55BC and later in 43AD Kent was destined to play an important part in the development of this part of the Roman Empire. Dr Thomas Blagg tells how Richborough was originally developed as a military store and then later as one of four coastal defences

known as Saxon shore forts, and how Canterbury grew to become a sizeable Roman town with important public buildings on the road the Romans built from Dover to London. Religion also played its part in the story as the native British and Roman practices merged and were carried on alongside the newer Christianity. Dr Blagg concludes with what became of Roman Kent after the collapse of the Empire in the 5<sup>th</sup> century and what can be seen today as evidence of its existence 2000 years ago

*7.30 pm Bridge Village Hall*

*Members £1, Non-members £2 Including light refreshments*

*Saturday 12th December 1998*

**CHRISTMAS BUFFET**

A warm welcome with a complimentary glass of wine and a generous hot and cold buffet await at the traditionally friendly and informal gathering. Three prizes to be won this year – lucky ticket draw, photo quiz and general knowledge quiz. As you would expect all with strong historical leanings.

*2.45 pm for 3.00 pm. Red Lion Inn, High Street, Bridge.*

*Tickets in advance only. Members £7, Non-members £8,*

*Children £4.*

*Tuesday 26th January 1999*

**GHOST EVENING**

An atmospheric evening by candlelight in the evocative atmosphere of a centuries old coaching inn. Stewart Ross will be reading from the Inglesby Legends, and local ghost stories and personal experiences of a spiritual nature are invited from everyone to further enrich the evening. To meet temporal needs, a buffet will be served during the evening and mulled wine will be available

*7.30 pm White Horse Inn, High Street, Bridge*

*Members £2, non-members £3 Including buffet.*

*Saturday 27th February 1999*

**GUIDED TOUR OF CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL**

The medieval period of Canterbury Cathedral between the 12<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries was a busy one at a time when it was the core of religious life in a Benedictine Priory. Historian and official Cathedral guide Meriel Connor will concentrate on this fascinating period emphasising contemporary meanings and messages expressed through the medieval wall paintings, sculptures, stained

glass and even the fabric of the cathedral building itself.

*Meet 10.15 am at Cathedral's Welcome Centre. Members £3,*

*Non-members £4 (Admission to Cathedral not included)*

*Tuesday 23rd March 1999*

**RESEARCHING THE HISTORY OF A HOUSE & ITS OCCUPANTS**

When genealogical and historical researcher Peter Ewart and his wife bought their house, they discovered that it was an early 19<sup>th</sup> century agricultural cottage whose interior had been completely renovated and extended by two previous owners in the 1970's and 80's. With the bread oven being the only significant original feature remaining, their curiosity was aroused as to the buildings origins and the people that had lived in it over its 160 year life. Peter shows how, no matter what the age of your house, you can without too much difficulty find out about its history and make it a more interesting place to live in.

*7.30 pm Bridge Village Hall.. Members £1, Non-members £2*

*including light refreshments.*

*Saturday 24th April 1999*

**BRIDGE EXPLORATIONS MILLENNIUM PROJECT**

Bridge has a long and interesting history and to celebrate the new century the Society's Millennium Project is a guided tour of the village. Any information including personal stories and anecdotes is welcome from anyone with connections with Bridge's past to make this an interesting and comprehensive afternoon. By 2000 the aim is to have the project ready to conduct regular guided tours of Bridge during the summer months. If you, or anyone you know have anything you could contribute please contact project co-ordinator John Corfield Tel (01227) 831992.

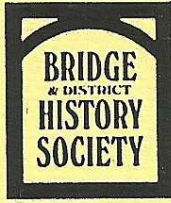
*Meet 2.00 pm at Bridge Post Office. Members £1, Non-members*

*£2, Children £1 Including light refreshments.*

*Saturday 8th May 1999*

**KHF ONE-DAY CONFERENCE AT GRAVESEND**

As a member of the Kent History Federation members have the opportunity to attend the annual informal event which in recent years has become a very popular and friendly occasion held each time in a different part of the county. This year's venue is



BRIDGE & DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY

# Membership 1998-1999

I/We would like to join the Society

	Title	First name	Family name
1	.....	.....	.....
2	.....	.....	.....
3	.....	.....	.....

Address .....

.....

.....Postcode.....

Telephone 01.....

### **Membership**

*(all correspondence sent to address shown above)*

*Single £5.00*

*Double £7.50*

*Triple £10.00*

<b>Total Membership Paid</b> £ .
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....Cheques payable to Bridge & District History Society

....Please bring to next meeting or send to

....Bill Dawson, Secretary, Nailford House, Brewery Lane,...

....Bridge, Canterbury CT4 5LF

<b>OFFICE USE ONLY</b>	<b>Received</b>
Cheque <input type="checkbox"/>	
Cash <input type="checkbox"/>	