



**Harberton and Harbertonford History Society**  
**Programme**  
**2023**

**Tuesday January 24th**

**7.30pm- Online via Zoom**

**Speaker: Andy Crabb**

**Title: 'Digging Deep: Dartmoor's Key Archaeological Excavations'**

Andy's talk will focus on some particular excavations that influenced our understanding of Dartmoor's past. He hopes to cover about seven digs and the artefacts that they revealed.

Andy Crabb is an archaeologist with Dartmoor National Park and Historic England. He has worked on Dartmoor for over 15 years.

Andy's role is wide ranging and diverse covering all aspects of archaeological management, providing advice, and even organising the occasional excavation!

Andy has been a regular contributor to our programme of talks and oversees our summer archaeological walk and picnic.

**Tuesday May 16th**

**7.30pm - Online via Zoom**

**Speaker: Abi Gray**

**Title: Sandwell Manor**

Details tbc

**Friday June 16th**

**6.30 pm - Face to Face Talk and Celebration**

**Venue: Harberton Village Hall**

**Speaker: Dr Todd Gray**

**Title: Uncle Tom Cobley and Widecombe Fair and Harberton'**

Widdicombe Fair became Devon's most famous song and went on to be sung across the British Empire. Its history began long before Sabine Baring Gould published it in the late nineteenth century with foreign translations and adaptations by the most unlikely of people from Round the Horne, Ernest Shackleton and even a Harberton version.

**Following the talk there will be refreshments to celebrate the talk and our first face to face meeting for 3 years !**

**Tuesday 11th July**

**7.30 pm- Face to Face Meeting**

**Venue: St Andrew's Church Harberton**

**Speaker: Dr Ian Mortimer**

**Title: Title: 'The Time Traveller's Guide to Regency Britain'**

This 70 minute talk will focus on an A-Z of Regency themes.

Dr Ian Mortimer is a British Historian and is best known as the author of The Time Traveller's Guides: to Medieval England (2008); to Elizabethan England (2012); to Restoration Britain (2017); and to Regency Britain (2020). He is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society and a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, and has published research in academic journals touching on every century from the twelfth to the twentieth.

Dr Mortimer has been described by The Times newspaper as 'the most remarkable medieval historian of our time'.

**Tuesday October 10th**

**7.30 pm- Online via Zoom**

**Speaker: Phil Badcott**

**Title: The Boatmen of Babbacombe Bay'**

Listen to the story of the fishermen and pleasure boat skippers of Babbacombe Bay in Torquay from the 1850s to the 1950s using previously unseen photos from my family's photo archive and the unheard stories of my nine ancestors who were Babbacombe Boatmen.

Philip Badcott is a Devonian and was born in Torquay. He grew up in the 1950s and 1960s and has lived in the town for most of his life. Being retired, he now studies the history of Devon and its people and has presented dozens of talks to clubs and societies. He published two books in 2021: 'History Tours of Torquay' and 'The Boatmen of Babbacombe Bay'. He is now researching and writing his third book: 'The March of William of Orange through Devon'.

'The Boatmen of Babbacombe Bay' book: This fully illustrated and untold story of the boatmen of Babbacombe Bay in Torquay follows the lives of those in one family who were fishermen and pleasure boat skippers in the 19th and 20th centuries. Their story is an interesting and important part of Babbacombe's history and is told mainly through the family photo archives, family memories and the newspapers of the time. Descriptions and images of the beaches in Babbacombe Bay are included. Available from Amazon.

'History Tours of Torquay' book: Explore the history of Torquay by following six carefully planned tours of the town that contemplate its growth, buildings and natural beauty whilst recalling the experiences of those who lived and stayed in the place that became the English Riviera. Available from Amazon.

**Tuesday November 21st**

**7.30 pm- Online**

**Speaker: Maureen Godfrey**

**Title: Totnes Workhouse**

**Details tbc**