

Gloucestershire Family History Society
FOREST OF DEAN BRANCH NEWSLETTER

NO. 115 – JUNE 2019

Last Branch Meeting

We were pleased to welcome Sandra Ashenford to our last meeting on May 15th attended by eight branch members and one guest. There were also two apologies. However, in spite of having block booked our meeting room at the beginning of the year we arrived to find it occupied by a Bream community meeting. This was taken up with the West Dean Centre the following day and we received an apology and an assurance that this would not happen again – at least not this year! Undaunted, we held the meeting al fresco in the paved garden area.

Sandra brought along twenty six curious objects, domestic and commercial utensils of yesteryear, and invited us to identify them. Most of us are of an age where, if we had not seen some of them in actual use, collectively, we had some knowledge of quite a number of them, though no one identified the chemist's suppository mould! Steve Cooper was the champion on the night.

It was something novel, and a fun evening. Sandra said she has an extensive collection of curious objects so we may well invite her back next year and another brainteaser evening.

Next Branch Meeting

On Wednesday June 19th the meeting is being held at Lydney Docks, **7.00pm start**, when Paul Barnett will be giving us a conducted tour and talk on the Georgian Dock, looking at the remaining archaeological structures and abandoned vessels. Meet in the Dock Car Park and hope some summer weather returns.

Future Meetings and Events

Wednesday, July 17th – Members' evening

Wednesday, August 21st – NO MEETING.

SATURDAY, September 14th – Branch Open Day at the Witherby Room, West Dean Centre, Bream, 10.00am to 3.00pm.

Wednesday, September 18th – Sally James on "Growing up in Lydney" – recounting tales of her childhood and childhood times in the town.

SATURDAY, October 12th. The branch has accepted an invitation to take a stand at the annual Glamorgan F.H.S. Fair at Merthyr Tydfil Leisure Centre, 10.00am to 3.30pm.

Wednesday, October 16th – Averil Kear on "North Foreland Lodge School at Lydney Park in WW2.

Wednesday, November 20th – Diana Standing on "A History of Underground Dean".

Wednesday, December 18th – Christmas Social.