

# CLAVERING HISTORY NEWSLETTER

**No 3: Autumn 2009**

## **PREHISTORIC & ROMAN CLAVERING**

Would you like to help discover Clavering's distant past – then come fieldwalking! Following the successful field-walking exercise last autumn the CLHG finally got the results back from a selection of the material found which confirms Prehistoric and Roman settlement. The oldest item is a waste flake which dates to Mesolithic or Neolithic times - that is at least 3-4000 years ago We are currently fieldwalking some more field and welcome further volunteers – email [stuart.moore3@btinternet.com](mailto:stuart.moore3@btinternet.com) .

## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

### **LANDSCAPE HISTORY evening class: 1 Oct – 19 Nov 2009 at 7.30 pm**

There are still places available at this year's landscape history evening class – probably the last under the Madingley system. This is Thursday evenings for 8 weeks starting **1st October** until **19 November** from 7.30–9.30 pm at Clavering Christian Centre PLUS an all-day field trip on **Saturday 24 October**. The tutor is [Dr Nicholas James](#) of Cambridge who we enjoyed so much this year. The subject is: ***Discover the Past in Your Landscape***. There are still place available – please email [jacqueline.cooper@virgin.net](mailto:jacqueline.cooper@virgin.net)

### **EILEEN LUDGATE MEMORIAL LECTURE: 4 November 2009 at 8 pm**

The third annual lecture on a Clavering history subject in memory of our late historian Eileen Ludgate will take place at the **Clavering Christian Centre on Wednesday 4 November** at 8 pm. Entry is free but there will be a collection in aid of Clavering Church. The 2009 lecture looks at a strange and disturbing story of the Clavering poisonings of the mid-19th century. The speaker [Fred Feather](#) is a well known speaker throughout Essex but this is the first time we have enticed him to Clavering – you are promised an entertaining evening as his lectures are never dull! The title: ***Murder in Victorian Clavering***.

**THE ORAL HISTORY PROJECT:** Thanks to [Joy Barrow](#) and [Jane Laing](#) and various residents, we have a terrific Oral History Project going on at present. Some wonderful interviews with our older citizens, preserving their wealth of memories, are now on CD and in course of transcription. Our grateful thanks to those who have kindly made recordings so far: [George Barker](#), [Fred Sampford](#), [Des Abrahams](#), [Eggie Abrahams](#), [Dick Law](#), [Audrey Law](#), [Sid Law](#), [Olwen Livings](#), [Fred Whyman](#) - also [Margaret Smith](#) of Wicken Bonhunt. We would be pleased to hear from others particularly those with pre-war memories of old Clavering. Later on we hope to have a special event to present the material from this project.

**THE AUSTRALIA CONNECTION:** Dean Newlan who lives in Melbourne, Australia is descended from the Newland family of Clavering. There are so many Australian researchers interested in their Clavering origins (I have about 50 on my list) that they have now started their own internet group on Facebook. Further information by emailing: [newlanfamily@optusnet.com.au](mailto:newlanfamily@optusnet.com.au)

**ALLOTMENT CENTENARY:** The Clavering Parish Council allotments were first set up in 1909-10 and on Saturday 18 July the allotmenters celebrated this with an open day which attracted a lot of interest. It's a wonderful achievement to have allotments so long, particularly as they are now more popular than ever. I am compiling the allotment history and John Banks is making a video CD, copies of which will be on sale in the future. DO YOU HAVE ANY ALLOTMENT MEMORIES TO SHARE?

**WW2 DEFENCES:** the History Group has been asked to contribute to an Essex survey to record surviving WW2 defences such as pillboxes, spigot mortars, tank traps and the like. DO YOU KNOW OF ANY WW2 OBJECTS THAT SURVIVE? (apart from the Pillbox).

**NEW ACQUISITIONS:** The RUTH Database cataloguing the Collection now has 1050 entries and still growing. HAVE YOU ANY INTERESTING ITEMS? For instance, [Ann Banks](#) has kindly shared a picture given to her by a family historian – but it is rather a mystery. It was captioned 'cottage in Hide Lane' but the sign suggests it was a pub – does anyone recognise it? [Elizabeth Reynolds](#) when she moved kindly gave a collection of photos to the collection including a newspaper cutting of 1973 when Clavering won the best-kept village competition – it shows the then parish council chairman Doug Luff tidying up the village. A splendid old book, ***The Titular Barony of Clavering***, has been very generously donated to the Collection by [Fay Horn](#) who is emigrating to New Zealand and got in touch via the village website. DO YOU HAVE ANY PHOTOS, NEWSCUTTINGS, DEEDS, DOCUMENTS, MAPS, EPHEMERA TO LEND FOR COPYING? **DEEDS:** House Deeds are no longer legally required but DON'T throw them away as they are historically important! do consider loaning them briefly for scanning. *Currently I have the use of the Recorders' A3 scanner at home so this would be a particularly good time to loan larger items for scanning.* Please get in touch if anything of interest for Clavering archives.

**The History Newsletter is compiled by the Clavering Local History Recorder - information please email [jacqueline.cooper@virgin.net](mailto:jacqueline.cooper@virgin.net)**