AGINCOURT 600 NEWSLETTER

2015 is the 600th anniversary of the Battle of Agincourt, an event etched in the memory thanks to Shakespeare’s play ‘Henry V’. The Agincourt 600 project will be revisiting the events of 1415, re-evaluating Shakespeare’s portrayal of events and working with a range of scholars and academics to get a real picture of what happened six hundred years ago and the effect of those events on our part of Hampshire.

As well as examining the history and heritage we will also be adding to the story ourselves by producing new plays, new walks, talks, living history events all inspired by the legend of Agincourt.

Detailed below are the first tranche of events, more will follow and shortly a new inter-active website will be launched with further event information and more background on the programme. But with the box-office about to open, for what will be sought after performance tickets, we wanted those people who are supporting Agincourt 600 and our creative projects to have some early information

Best wishes

Cheryl Butler, Head of Culture, Eastleigh Borough Council

Theatrical Productions

*Beyond the Dark Water*

One of the key events in the story of Henry V and the road to Agincourt was the plot that was hatched against the king’s life whilst he was in Southampton. ‘The Southampton Plot’ is a short scene in Shakespeare’s narrative but we have gone back to the original sources to tell the story of Lord Scrope, Richard Earl of Cambridge and Sir Thomas Grey. Leading playwright Ben Musgrove has written this new production which is being directed by The Point & Berry theatre’s Artistic Director Owen Calver-Lyons. Like the travelling players of Shakespeare’s day this play will tour around venues, but these will be venues with a difference. We have followed the trail of the plotters as they met in Hamble, Itchen Ferry, Portchester and finally Southampton, we have chosen historic venues to host the performances that would have been familiar to the plotters.

Dates & Times

21st, 22nd & 23rd July 7.30 Portchester Castle, Portchester

24th & 25th July 7.30pm Pear Tree Church, Itchen Ferry Village, Pear Tree Green, Southampton

26th July 3pm & 7.30pm The Chapel, Royal Victoria Country Park, Netley, Southampton

28th & 29th July 7.30pm Hamble Priory Church, Hamble Lane, Hamble-le-Rice

30th July 7.30pm, 31st July 3pm & 7.30pm, 1st August 3pm, 5pm, 7.30pm St Julien’s Chapel, Winkle Street, Southampton

All the venues are intimate with seating for c50 persons so early booking for your preferred location is recommended

Box Office 023 8065 2333

All tickets £10 [running time approx. 70mins]

*Beyond the Dark Water – On-line*

As part of our programme of digital work a filmed version of the production will be serialised of the performance and a first edit will be screened at St Julien’s Chapel, Winkle Street, Southampton on 5th August

Box Office 023 8065 2333

*A Funny thing happened on the Road to Agincourt*

Local street theatre company, The Sarah Siddons Fan Club will be giving their version of the events of August 2015 in a travelling theatre piece which will visit historic locations and tell the story from the perspective of the local inhabitants of Southampton. Meet ale-wifes and friars, ferrymen and gunners, merchants and ship-builders all caught up in the tumultuous events of 1415.

Dates & Time

2nd 3rd & 4th August 7.30pm the production begins outside the Medieval Merchants House, 58 French Street, Southampton [duration one and a half hours]

Box Office all tickets £5 available from [www.wegottickets.com/sarahsiddonsfanclub](http://www.wegottickets.com/sarahsiddonsfanclub)

Or telephone 023 8086 2882

Dates & Times 1st & 2nd August, 11am-4pm TBC

Conference

31st July – 1st August ‘The War on Land & Sea’

Avenue Campus, University of Southampton

Public Lecture 1st August ‘The Meaning of War’ Dr Ian Mortimer

For full conference details visit [www.southampton.ac.uk/agincourt2015](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/agincourt2015)

For programme of national events visit [www.agincourt600.com](http://www.agincourt600.com)

***Guided Walks***

There will be a programme of guided walks around the historic places associated with the Southampton Plot led by local heritage guides.

**Southampton**

*Harry’s Hamtun*

Dates & Time

2nd, 8th, 9th August, 11am and 2pm departs from outside the Medieval Merchants House, 58 French Street, Southampton. Tour lasts approximately one and a half hours,

Cost £2

**Bursledon**

*21st June* Walk around Old Bursledon with the Eastleigh & Hamble Valley Heritage Guides

Bursledon was the centre for developing royal ships during the reign of Henry V, this ancient maritime centre has played a part in much of the history and heritage of England.

[Whilst in Burlsedon don’t forget to visit Greylaydes on School Road who will be hosting an exhibition called ‘Memories of Agincourt’ an artistic representation of banners, pennants, shields, tents and armour]

Starting point Great Down Park Open Space Car Park SO31 8BZ

Time 2pm

Cost £2

**Netley**

20th June 2.30pm

*So What did Agincourt do for Netley?*

Meet Abbey Hall Carpark, Netley

Cost £2

**Otterbourne**

5 August 7.30pm

*Otterbourne and the Southampton Plot*

During the 600th Anniversary of the Battle of Agincourt, the Hamble Valley Guide’s springtime walk takes us to Otterbourne for summer flowers and the story of those who planned to murder Henry V in Southampton, before he sailed for France and the Battle of Agincourt.

Meet on the Green near the Otter Inn SO21 2HW

Cost £2

*Art Workshop*

Greyladyies Art Foundation, School Lane Bursledon pop along to this art workshop where you will get a chance to make banners, pennants, shields, and tents all inspired by Agincourt. Work will be exhibited in June at the Greyladyies Art Centre, in Old Bursledon SO31 8BX [www.gaf.org.uk]

Contact susanosmond@hotmail.com or telephone 023 8040 4649

Time 2.30-4.30pm

Cost £2

Date 30th & 31st May

TALKS

There are a number of talks available to groups, societies, venues, titles include

‘When the Army Came to Town’ Dr Mary South

‘Shakespeare, Travelling Players & the Historic Henry’ Dr Cheryl Butler

‘The Road to Agincourt’ Geoff Watts, local historian and tour guide

‘Harry’s Ships: The Grace Dieu’ Dr Craig Lambert, University of Southampton

‘Harry’s Guns: artillery and the expeditions to France’ Dan Spencer, researcher, Agincourt 600

Please contact cheryl.butler@eastleigh.gov.uk and we will forward your talk request to the relevant speaker

MORE EVENTS TO FOLLOW!!

FOR LOCAL AGINCOURT EVENTS COMING SOON OUR NEW WEBSITE

Events, films & video, ask an historian, background to the events of 1415 details to follow soon