



SPRING 2012

A BAKER'S dozen made it to Alcester for a fascinating trip around the museum and market town. WHG members were impressed by the well-equipped, modern museum which boasted a large collection of complete Samian ware and contained many intriguing artifacts - one favourite was a tap in the shape of a man's thumb. Our walk around Alcester was ably led by Trevor Wraight from the town's civic society who enlivened the trip with many interesting tales.

Highlights included the early 17th century market hall, the beautiful timber-framed housing and tracing the needle-making heritage of the town through its buildings. A tasty and reasonably-priced meal at the Swan (a historic coaching inn) was an additional bonus. Altogether a very enjoyable, informative and (mainly) dry day.



Pictured left to right: a historic *tuery (see below); the parish church of St Nicholas; WHG members admire the impressive hammer-beamed roof in the town hall.



PLANNING for the third annual family archaeology event at the National Herb Centre, Warmington is underway. Held as part of the Council for British Archaeology festival fortnight, this free event will run from 11am to 4pm on Sunday, 15th July.

Building on its previous success with an emphasis on traditional crafts (in the hall), outside there will be archaeology and metal detecting. In the light of the Anglo-Saxon burials on the parish boundary, we will also be expanding the talks to cover this period as well as the Roman.

If you would be interested in helping with the planning or assistance on the day we would love to hear from you! Please either call Liz on 01295 690641 or email alecnewman@btinternet.com

***TUERY** - A local dialect name for a passage. Do you know of similar names in other local towns and villages? Other names for similar features are ginnel, jitty, snicket, tink-a-tank and twitchel. Few of these words appear in a standard dictionary.

In Alcester the burgage plots down the High Street were planned and laid out at a standard width. They would have typically combined a shop front, work room, living accommodation and yard behind leading to a back lane. At intervals, between burgage plots, there would be a tuery for pedestrians, pack animals and small carts.

Contact Details

If you would like to submit an article for the newsletter, or if you think there is something we've missed out please contact Liz and Harriet Newman by phone on 01295 690641 or by email on alecnewman@btinternet.com

Dates for your diary

Monday, **May 14th** 7.30pm
WHG meeting; speaker Dick Burge on the Bourton-on-the-Water Hoard.

Saturday **May 19th**, 'A tale of three parishes; south-east Warwickshire in the Middle Ages'. Day school led by Dr John Hunt, places must be booked by May 11th, cost £12. Contact Karen Kemp on 01926 731230 for more info.

Sunday **June 3rd**, Fenny Compton Through the Ages Jubilee Exhibition. Fenny village hall, 10am-5pm. Of interest to all ages.

Monday **11th June** Tysoe Walk and Talk - meeting at Tysoe Church, 7.15pm for 7.30pm start.

Saturday **23rd June** 'How Do We Know About Old Coins?' Held at Warwickshire Record Office, learn about the county's coin collection; for beginners and more experienced. Cost £6 (£5 concessions). Book in advance on 01926 738959.

Sunday **July 15th** WHG Family Event running as part of the national Festival of British Archaeology at the National Herb Centre, 11am-4pm. See main article for more information.

Unless otherwise stated, all events are in Warmington Village Hall.