

Members also had time to undertake some personal research. The National Archives is a rich resource, providing information about our ancestors which cannot be found anywhere else. Paul Green took the time to do some vital preparatory work before visiting the Archives and was rewarded by finding a full description of his ancestors' home in Aston a hundred years ago. Jane Neill found information in the Colonial Service Year Books about her grandfather who worked in the Post Office in British Guyana and Nigeria, and Richard Phillips found an interesting set of government papers about conscientious objectors in Dartmoor prison. Thomas Locke looked at muster rolls of the 1820s, whilst Valerie Magan was on the track of 19<sup>th</sup> century Evesham police station plans.

Brian and Hazel Smith were trying to track down Brian's Smith ancestors – it's times like this when you wish your name was Higginbottom! Brian's great-grandfather, Hubert Smith, lived at Bengeworth Fields House for many years, but also owned land in Badsey which later became the Recreation Ground. Brian tells us that Hubert was a God-fearing man who knew the Bible inside out, yet at the same time was an expert on Charles Darwin's Theory. He was a lay preacher and visited local chapels. He would stand on a box in Badsey village, preaching about the evils of alcohol. Seward House was his favourite location, local brewer Julius Sladden being the target! Hubert was a small man with a goatee beard and would walk to Stratford Mop and back each year – quite a character by all accounts.

#### Evesham Volunteer Centre - Living History Memories

We have recently received the following request: "My name is Kirsty Cash and I currently work at the Evesham Volunteer Centre on a local history project based on the villages that the Centre covers. As part of this research, I would like to interview village members who have lived in the village the longest and collect their stories and memories, particularly of the village, schooling in the village etc. These interviews will be done with myself and my manager Helen Gray. This, along with the other information on the villages, will then be turned into a book. If you are willing to be part of this and allow me to interview you for this project, and/or you have any questions please get in touch with me at: [volunteeradmin@eveshamvolunteers.org.uk](mailto:volunteeradmin@eveshamvolunteers.org.uk) or on 01386 40165 and ask for Kirsty Cash or Helen Gray."

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We reported in our last Newsletter about the receipt of a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). Our project, "The Last Market Gardener", was successfully launched at the Flower Show and we shall be bringing you regular reports in the Society Newsletter and in a special Project Newsletter to the whole community. Look out for details in the forthcoming Project Newsletter about Terry Sparrow's book.

#### Round-Up of Events July to October 2010

- Badsey Flower Show, Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> July – Another successful exhibition at this, the 108<sup>th</sup> annual Flower Show. "The Last Market Gardener Project" was launched and visitors to the stand had a chance to see market gardening implements, partake in a quiz, and view folders focussing on the market gardening families who lived in Badsey and Aldington a hundred years ago. Many congratulations to Derek Crane who came away with no less than four cups. Read about the Crane family in the next Project Newsletter.



The Badsey Society stand was busy all afternoon.



Derek Crane with his four cups.

- Trip to The National Archives, Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October – 17 members went on the coach trip to The National Archives at Kew. See inside to find out more information about what they got up to. Here is the group on its arrival at Kew.



Back row: Tom Locke, Lizzie Noyes, Ivor Martin, Paul Green, Robin Neill, Richard Phillips, Patrick Sparrow, Mike Lovatt, Beryl Hockenhull.  
Front row: Meryl Pratt, Jane Neill, Valerie Magan, Brian Smith, Hazel Smith, Trevor Hockenhull.  
Kneeling: Virginia Pawlyn.

We hope to make a return trip next year, so watch this space for more details.

