

THE OXFORDSHIRE LOCAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION (OLHA)

UFFINGTON IN FICTION AND FACT

A study day to be held on **SUNDAY 10th May 2015**
at the Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall, Broad Street, Uffington, SN7 7RA (map overleaf)

Uffington, a small downland village, was home to Thomas Hughes, MP and social reformer, lawyer, judge and author, best known for writing 'Tom Brown's Schooldays'. In 1859 he published 'The Scouring of the White Horse; or the Long Vacation Ramble of a London Clerk' which is a fictionalised account of a real event. A hodge-podge of legend, customs and local ballads, the White Horse is said to celebrate the victory of Alfred over the Danes in 871 AD.

9.30 Coffee and Registration

10.00 OLHA Annual General Meeting

10.45 A Step Through Uffington's Past

Sharon Smith, curator of the Tom Brown's School Museum for the last twenty years, has co-authored several local history publications, produced annual special exhibitions, and organised a community dig on the Uffington Iron Age site.

11.45 Living with the White Horse: Excavations of White Horse Hill and the nearby hillforts of Segsbury Camp and Alfred's Castle

Gary Lock, Emeritus Professor at the Oxford School of Archaeology, has directed extensive excavations of the Ridgeway hillforts and of the Marcham/Frilford site in the Vale of the White Horse.

1.00 Lunch

The Fox and Hounds, a freehouse, serves the usual pub dishes as well as Sunday roasts. It is the only pub in the village and it would be best to book – 01367 820680. Other pubs are in neighbouring villages such as Woolstone and Kingston Lisle. Sandwiches can be eaten in the hall until 2pm.

2.30 Visit to Tom Brown's School Museum (no additional charge)

The museum is housed in the schoolroom built in 1617 for twelve "worthy" boys. It became a reading room in 1857 and opened as a museum in 1984. The whole of the village's history is displayed in a very small space.

Also worth visiting is St Mary's church. Known locally as the Cathedral of the Vale, it was built in about 1250, and is renowned for its Early English style, which has been little altered. It is described in Simon Jenkins' 'England's Thousand Best Churches'. There is a blue plaque on Garrards Farmhouse in the High Street where John Betjeman lived from 1934 to 1945. It is a short drive to the White Horse car park to visit the White Horse monument.

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Booking for *Uffington in Fiction and Fact, Sunday 10th May 2015.*

Please book and pay on-line at: www.olha.org.uk/?page_id=40

OR complete this form and send it with a cheque for the total amount (**£10 per person**) made payable to 'OLHA' to:
Liz Woolley, 138 Marlborough Road, Oxford OX1 4LS (01865 242760, membership@olha.org.uk)

Name(s)

Name of local society if applicable

No. places at **£10 each** Your e-mail address

Please tick this box (and write your e-mail address in above) if you would like an acknowledgement by e-mail:

Uffington lies north of the B4507, Wantage to Ashbury Road.
There is no public transport on Sundays, so if you need a lift please phone
01189 843260 or e-mail vickyjordan5@hotmail.com.

