

Pear Tree Church, Bitterne
Heritage Open Day
Saturday 18th September 2021
11am to 3.30pm
Programme of Events



CELEBRATING

400 YEARS



OF PEAR TREE CHURCH

Pear Tree 400 Heritage Day Programme

IN THE CHURCH 11am – 3.30pm

Enjoy the historic interior of Pear Tree Church built in 1618 where you will be able to view the special exhibition created for the 400th anniversary in September 2020. Pickup the free trail leaflet and enjoy the flower displays.

Purchase a copy of the new history of the Church, St Mary over the Water: The Story of the Jesus Chapel, Pear Tree Green.

CHURCH YARD

Urban Sketchers art workshop.

THE SOUTH GREEN

A variety of craft and heritage stands with displays and local experts including: The Spitfire Makers, The Supermariners, October Books, Diaper Heritage Association, Collectables, Bevois Mount Local History, Southampton Archaeology Society, Southampton Common & Parks Protection Society, City of Southampton Society, Mayflower Theatre Heritage & Archives, SS Shieldhall, Roger Towner 17th century medical display, Vintage Vehicles.

ENTERTAINMENT AREA SOUTH GREEN

Music was always part of church life, and in the eighteenth century the village choir was famous ... some said infamous! The Ferry village the church supported also had its own maritime culture creating new folk songs about life Pear Tree and Woolston. We are delighted to welcome three groups who will be entertaining us:

11.15 am – 11.55 am Barry Wake & Howard Brown – folks songs of Woolston.

12 pm – 12.30 pm Jeff Henry & Brian Hooper - folk songs of the Ferry Village.

2 pm—2.45 pm singing and dancing with The Madding Crowd .

3.00 pm - 3.30 pm Jeff Henry & Brian Hooper - folk songs of the Ferry Village.

GUIDED WALKS—STARTING FROM THE WESTGATE

11.15 am Meet the Ancestors Guided cemetery walk with guide Geoff Watts.

1 pm Nature Walk – Wildlife and Plant life Guided Walk around Peartree Green with Phil Budd of the Southampton Natural History Society.

2 pm Meet the Ancestors Guided cemetery walk with guide Geoff Watts.

MILITARY ENCAMPMENT—SOUTH EAST GREEN

In the eighteenth century the green was often used by troops camped there, practising their drills in readiness for fighting Napoleon we are delighted that the Cameron Highlanders are recreating the experience. Drill parades on the North Green 12 noon and 2.45pm.

See a display of a Napoleonic Surgeons equipment, a small medical operation. The soldiers will perform some musket and marching drill, and will do a "live" musket demonstration. The camp "ladies" will talk about day-to-day life for them in the camp.

PAGEANT VIGNETTES – JANE AUSTEN BENCH, WEST GATE

In the late 19th and early 20th century pageants were incredibly popular, often organised by local clergy and performed around parish churches, Pear Tree was no exception. We are were not able to create a full pageant but The Sarah Siddons Fan Club Theatre will perform scenes based on original pageant material plus some additions from themselves.

The Rev Davies Historical Pageant:

11.05 am Planting of the Pear Tree Elizabeth I.

11.30 am 1620 pilgrims meet Captain Richard Smith & Lancelot Andrews .

12.30 pm The most famous non occupant of Pear Tree churchyard the story of Richard Parker.

1.30 pm The most famous visitor to Pear Tree Jane Austen meets Mrs. Lewin promoter of smallpox inoculation.

2.30 pm Turkey Slaves & Georgian Weddings.

3.30 pm Pageant Parade Led by Rev Miles & Rev Davies with 79th Cameron Highlanders Regiment, The Sarah Siddons Fan Club and the Madding Crowd.

CHURCH HALL 11am—3pm

Delicious cakes and cups of tea available. Watch a collection of films made for the projects running throughout the day, and an exhibition from the Quilters.

Why Remember Peartree? – overview of church history.

The Rosoman Memorial – the Grade II listed memorial restored as part of the project.

Pear Tree War Memorial – the memorial was restored as part of the project.

The Natural Environment of the Pear Tree Churchyard – an insight into the flora and fauna found in the churchyard, which was also consecrated in 1620.

The Sad Tale of Richard Parker – the tragic story of the local cabin boy from Pear Tree.

PARADE – 3.30pm WEST GATE

The village was renowned for its annual procession, originally a medieval festival to commemorate St Peter, the patron saint of fishermen, but by the nineteenth century it was a more raucous event known as the 'Big Fisherman' we bring our Fayre to a close by recreating the procession.

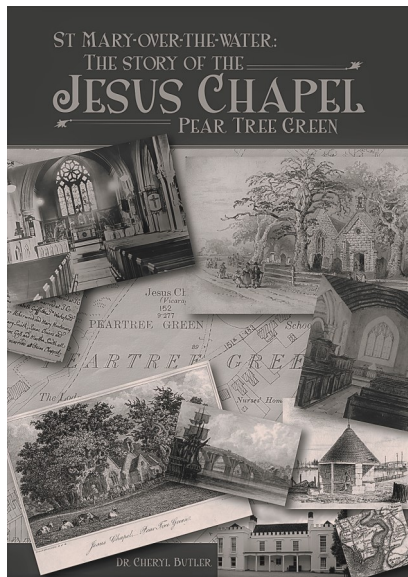
REGENCY TEA – CHURCH HALL 4PM – PLACES MUST BE PRE-BOOKED

To commemorate Jane Austen's links with Pear Tree and the restoration of the Austen-Butler Harrison memorial, and the new writers' bench, the Jane Austen Hampshire Group are hosting a Regency Tea and talk in the Church hall. Join us in a delicious tea to bring the Pear Tree 400 Project to its finale.

To book the Regency Tea go to:

<https://www.peartreechurch.org.uk/peartree-400>

In September 1620 the Jesus Chapel was the first church since the Reformation to be consecrated using a new Anglican service specially written by Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop of Winchester. This book tells the history of the Chapel and its parish over the last 400 years.



To purchase your copy of

“St Mary-Over-The-Water:

The Story of the JESUS CHAPEL Pear Tree Green”.

by Dr Cheryl Butler

visit the Church today or go to the Pear Tree Church website:

www.peartreechurch.org.uk



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