

Alresford Historical & Literary Society



Newsletter April 2019

Annual General Meeting

Followed by a talk on:

Europe

(My Part in its Downfall)

With Peter Pooley

on **Wednesday 17th April**

7:30 Methodist Church Jacklyns Lane, Alresford. Visitors Welcome: £3:00 at the door.



Peter Pooley is Vice President of our Society and is well known as a local historian giving a number of lectures over the years on historical matters such as the Battle of Waterloo and Samuel Pepyes. He is also a regular contributor to local magazines with witty observations on life in and around Alresford

On the night of our formal AGM he will lighten up the proceedings with a very informal account of his experiences as a Brussels insider from 1961 to 2001, revealing what goes on behind the scenes as officials struggle to bring politicians with widely divergent interests to agreement on the common interest.

Europe, my part in its downfall is not about politics, but about the study of human behaviour under stress.

Newsletter. Latest copy date for the May issue is April 29th 2019 Please note this date
Please send Copy to Robert Fowler 01962 734125 email to: secretary@alresfordhistandlit.co.uk

Review: Born to Rule. By Dianne Mannering



As the legitimate first-born son of a reigning monarch Prince Charles is born to rule, and the same, saving any mishap, will be true of Prince William and the infant Prince George.

In her light-hearted but well-informed survey of the monarchy from William the Conqueror onwards, Dianne Mannering used this principle to show that the line of succession has rarely been as uncomplicated as this. It has been interrupted and distorted by murder, execution, abdication, illegitimacy, madness, religion, childlessness and premature death.

Here are nine examples. William IV had children but as none of them was legitimate his niece Victoria became queen. Earlier, Henry VII seized the throne from Richard III. His elder son Arthur died before he could succeed him so the younger son inherited as Henry VIII. Henry's son Edward became king as a boy but died without issue.

After the brief nine days' wonder of Jane Grey, Henry's daughter Mary became queen, died childless and was followed by Elizabeth I who, unmarried and having no heir, was succeeded by James I (James VI of Scotland). His son Charles, the rightful heir, was overthrown, imprisoned and beheaded.

In modern times the present Queen's father never expected to become king but had to do so after his brother's controversial abdication. BT

Selected Historic events this month

- April 2, 1982 - The start of the Falkland Islands War
- April 4, 1968 - Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King was shot and killed.
- April 9, 1865 - The American Civil War effectively ended
- April 10, 1998 - Northern Ireland agreement
- April 17, 1969 Voting Age lowered to 18 from 21
- April 17, 1961 - Bay of Pigs invasion fiasco.
- April 1564 - William Shakespeare (1564-1616) was born
- April 21 1509 Henry VIII becomes King of England
- April 26, 1986 - Chernobyl nuclear power plant explodes
- April 29 1884 - Oxford University admits female students

Executive Committee to April 2019

Chair: Glenn Gilbertson	732726
Secretary & Membership: Robert Fowler	734125
Treasurer: Vic Prior	733380
Newsletter Editor: Robert Fowler	734125
Speakers Secretary:	Vacant
Hall Steward- Andrea Sutton	736584

Other Committee Members:

Brian Davies/ Nancy Webb/Brian Tippet

Recommended Reading:

In this remarkable book, Shirin Ebadi, Iranian human rights lawyer and activist, and Nobel Peace Prize laureate (2003), tells her extraordinary story.

Dr Ebadi is a tireless voice for reform in her native Iran, where she argues for a new interpretation of Islamic law in harmony with vital human rights such as democracy, equality before the law, religious freedom and freedom of speech. Peace Prize.

Her book is a must-read for anyone fascinated by the life story and beliefs of a courageous woman, as well as those interested in current events.

Recommended by Glenn Gilbertson who has recently returned from a 2 week tour of Iran. Published by Rider 2007. ISBN-10: 9781846040146. Available from Hants Library Services