



1966-2016

Alresford Historical & Literary Society



Newsletter May 2018

Pestilence, Penitence and Putrefaction

A History of Medicine in Winchester

with Roy Weller

Wed 16th May 2018

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

Synopsis

Medicine began in Greece with Hippocrates in the 5th century BC, continued under the influence of Galen for 1500 years and began to change with the Renaissance and with the growing influence of Science. Winchester reflects the evolution of medicine during the past 1400 years through its Minsters, Cathedral, hospitals, memorials and historical accounts. My talk will illustrate the History of Medicine in Winchester, the tragedies associated with disease and some of the personalities involved. How people dealt with disease before the development of the 21st Century medicine and surgery will be discussed.

Roy Weller is a retired Professor of Neuropathology in the Medical School in Southampton University. He spent much of his professional life diagnosing diseases of the brain, including tumours and dementia's. His research interests in later years were in Alzheimer's disease and he continues in this field in an advisory role. Since retiring, he has been a Guide in Winchester Cathedral and has taken a keen interest in how the Cathedral and the City reflects the history of medicine in the last 1400 years.

Newsletter. Latest copy date for the June issue is May 29th 2018

Please send Copy to Robert Fowler 01962 734125 email to: secretary@alresfordhistandlit.co.uk

Review: Thomas Rowlandson — Laughter, Scandal and Seduction in Eighteenth Century England.

Graham Lumb enlivened the evening of the AGM with an entertaining account of Rowlandson's artistic career. As part of a wide-ranging sequence of well-chosen illustrations he showed examples of Rowlandson's portraits and watercolours as well as reminders of the work of contemporary artists such as Gainsborough and Stubbs. But the focus of the talk was on Rowlandson's cartoons.

These ranged in kind from scenes of city life for Ackerman's 'Microcosm of London' and his series on the fictional Dr Syntax to more brutal satirical depictions of street fights, boxing, amputations and executions. During his lifetime the print shops sold thousands of his cartoons, giving him the income needed to support his spendthrift lifestyle.

Less moralistic than Hogarth and less cutting than Gilray, Rowlandson provided a genial satiric chronicle of the times. He created a world of folly, misadventure and casual sinning and populated it with exaggeratedly fat or scrawny people, gluttonous clergymen, accident-prone travellers, overturned coaches, elderly lechers lusting after pretty milkmaids, and shapely harlots brazenly pursuing their calling.

The rollicking humour of his often sexually explicit images suggests that he gloried in the world he created. BT

Visit to Winchester College 18th July

Members are invited to register their interest for their visit to the Winchester College Treasury.

We meet at the Porters Lodge at 2 PM.

Please let Trisha Ferris know if you would like to come. Tel 01962 732054 or email her on ferrist@btinternet.com

Executive Committee to April 2018

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Recommended Reading.

Mid Winter Break

by *Bernard MacLaverty*

A gentle story about a couple who have been married a long time and their foreign holiday.

The year of the Runaways

by *Sanjeev Sahota*

A superb read, that cleverly weaves the experiences of a group of migrant men, into a story about friendship, loyalty and the search for a better life. You will be appalled at what so many thousands of people have to go through for the chance of a better life.

Recommended by the Chislehurst book club

Alresford Articles & Publications;

We still have a small number of our latest Publication: Alresford Articles number 7. Priced at £5 with a discount to £4 for members.

These will be available at the entry desk on the 16th May