



Hello All. Lovely to see that spring is on its way!

It's been a busy start to the Escrick Heritage Group programme of events for 2024 ... Heritage members and friends, as a precursor to the 2024 programme of events, met for lunch on January 30th at the Fat Abbot restaurant in Escrick. The restaurant is adjacent to St. Helen's Church and all enjoyed a convivial lunch.

We have also been able to enjoy two different, but related events, during February. The first event took place on the evening February 7th and was presented by Tony Morgan, a local historian and author residing in North Yorkshire.

The focus of Tony's presentation was the Tudor history of York. It was interesting to note that during the Tudor era; the fortunes of York fluctuated. Battles and plague took their toll on the city, but York remained a city of strategic importance.

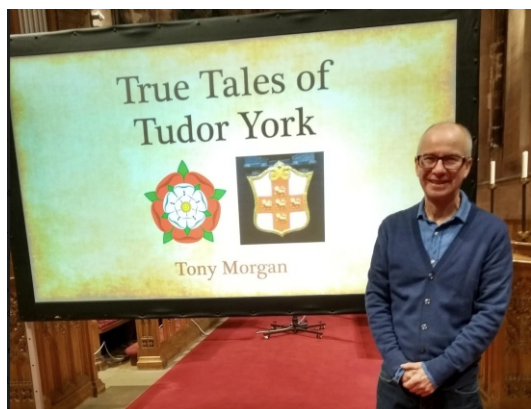
Several Tudor kings visited the city. However, Henry VIII (perhaps the most famous or infamous Tudor king?) did not visit but, at the time of the Reformation plundered, the treasures of the York Minster and surrounding Abbeys in North Yorkshire.

On the afternoon of February 12th St. Helen's Church was bathed in crisp, Spring sunshine as a large audience were invited to the public Yorkshire premier (possibly the world premier!) of a film entitled "York 2,000 years of the city's history."

This 55 minute film had been expertly researched, photographed and filmed by Escrick resident Henry Farrar. Henry was ably assisted by another Escrick resident, Jan Tallack, who provided the narration to accompany the film.

The film gave an insight as to how the various invaders and conquerors of York left their individual marks on the city. The Romans named it Eboracum and evidence of their architecture can still be seen in the city walls and the remains of a bath house.

Under the Anglo-Saxons the city was known as Eofowic; and the Vikings named it Jorvik. However, the name that has endured, "York", was bestowed by the Normans.



York has had a rather bloodthirsty history. The city's fortunes have ebbed and flowed, but all who claimed it as their own have left their mark. These legacies can be found in the architecture such as Clifford's Tower, the Minster and the Merchant Adventurers' Hall.

Many of the street names are evidence of the Norse influence upon the city – e.g. Skeldergate – Gate being Norse for street or path. It was interesting to note that Henry's research unearthed some comments from "visitors" in the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries – today we would call these persons "tourists". Several considered York dull, uninteresting, and having "mean" streets; by which they meant "narrow". The remarks possibly referred to streets such as "The Shambles" – today a much visited venue on the tourists' to do list. One visitor from Wales was much impressed by the Assembly Rooms.

Henry must be commended for the tremendous amount of research undertaken. The film provides an interesting insight into a treasure trove of delights on our doorstep. Probably a treasure trove that we take for granted, and don't explore often enough???

Escrick Brewery!

Did you know Escrick had a brewery in the late 1880's? Prompted by Les, undertaking research and looking for any photographs relating to it, we have found a little on the internet... extract below courtesy of *Breweryhistory.com*

John J Hunt Ltd, Ebor Brewery, 27 Aldwark, York, North Yorkshire...Founded by Joseph Hunt 1834 Acquired by J.W. Canerib & Co Ltd. in 1953 when they had C230 houses.

The firm was founded in 1836 by Joseph Hunt, but was still a small concern at his death in 1858. His nephew, Henry Hunt, succeeded to the business, but died after only three years in charge. The brewery was subsequently let, firstly to the partnership of Kay and Braithwaite, then from October 1865 to John Flawith, who was declared bankrupt in July 1866.

Failure to let the business led John Joseph Hunt, Henry Hunt's only son, to take over himself at his coming of age in March 1875. He gradually built up the business, and from 1890 began to acquire public houses at a steady rate.

The brewery was inconveniently sited for passing trade, so a site for new offices and stores was acquired in Pavement. In August 1895 the firm became a limited company, By this time (1890's) the firm's trade was no longer limited to the city and its immediate hinterland, and agencies were operating in Escrick (where Thomas Bradley, proprietor of the Escrick Brewery, had ceased brewing to take up an agency agreement in 1883), Elvington, Darlington and Malton.

A range of eight beers, including three milds, a bitter, Light Dinner Ale, Old Tom, India Pale Ale, and Double Brown Stout was being brewed; to meet the increasing demand for its products, the Ebor Brewery, already greatly extended, was comprehensively rebuilt, the work being completed in 1899.

Do you know any more about the Escrick Brewery please...including where it was? If so it would be great to hear from you. Thank you.

**Coming up we have:
Escrick Heritage Group - Wednesday 6th March. 7.30pm.
'Escrick Sword Dance'.**

We are delighted to welcome back the Ebor Morris men who will share the history of the Escrick Long Sword Dance and then perform it for us, before we enjoy tea and cake. Hopefully our very own dancers will join in later in the evening too! As usual, all very welcome. Members free. Visitors/Guests £4 and refreshments will be served.

**Heritage Hub
Monday 11th March**

Come along from 1pm for a look around the Church, or sit and enjoy a chat over tea and cake. Again all very welcome.

**Hoots Café
Tuesday 19th March 9.30am to 12 noon**

Absolutely everyone very welcome to come along for tea/coffee and cakes. Adults £3, children 50p. (Free refills). We look forward to seeing you.

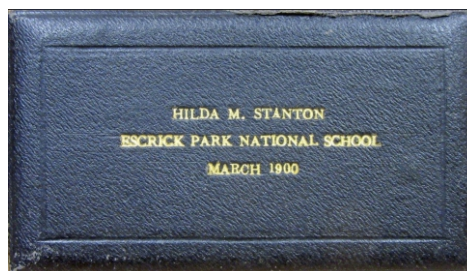
**Forward notice
Escrick Heritage Group
Wednesday 3rd April at 7.30pm**

We are looking forward to hearing about:
'District nursing through the years' by Kay Ford.



From the archive

In March 1900...
Hilda M Stanton was
presented with a medal for
Good attendance at Escrick
primary school, then called
Escrick Park school.



We look forward to seeing everyone soon