Bedfordshire Local History Association Annual Conference 2003

Industry and Conservation

A conference tracing over 100 years of continuous development from a small Victorian town to a large industrial area on

Saturday, 14th June 2003 from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm at

The Bowling Club Pavilion, Bowling Green Lane,
Old Bedford Road, Luton

Organised by: The Friends of Luton Museums,
Luton & District Historical Society and Luton Museum & Art Gallery
on behalf of the BLHA

The rural nature of Luton in the latter half of the 19th century, the brewing industry and the traditional, but seasonal, hat trade will provide the springboard for this conference. Speakers will outline the late 19th century initiatives of the Chamber of Commerce and local councillors to expand the industrial base of the town and discuss some of the consequences of their actions. The conference will recall the sometimes colourful events which charted progress towards the town's present day status as an area more green than Cambridge.

Optional guided tours, including a visit to Luton's oldest secular building, will illustrate aspects of the planned programme of lectures. Poster and audio/visual displays will provide additional interest. The day will conclude with refreshments at the Luton Museum & Art Gallery and a further opportunity to visit the refurbished display galleries.

The conference venue is located on the northern outskirts of the town and is easily accessible. There is a large secure car park adjacent to the conference centre with level access to the building. A detailed programme and a map are shown overleaf.

Coffee will be served on arrival and a light lunch will be available.

Conference fee: £12.00 (incl. refreshments & tours)

Note: the event is limited to 80 delegates.

Early booking is advisable.

Enquiries to: Dr E Adey
BLHA Conference 2003
Luton Museum & Art Gallery
Old Bedford Road
Luton LU2 7HA

Telephone No: 01582 546723

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Saturday, 14th June 2003

Programme

09.30 -10.00	Registration and Coffee	
10.00 -10.30	Opening address	
	Brewing and Pubs	Stuart Smith
10.30 -11.00	The New Industries Committee	Iain Starkey
11.00 -11.30	Riot and the Burning of the Town Hall	Dave Craddock
11.30 -12.30	Choice of tour -	
	a) Biscot Church and C16th Moat House	Colin Cook
	b) The Hat Trail	Pauline Wolsey
	c) Wardown Park	Elizabeth Adey
	d) Visit to new Luton Life Galleries	
	Alternatively there will be video presentations of local life and industry in the Pavilion	
12.45 - 2.00	Buffet Lunch	
2.15 - 2.45	Local industries & a versatile workforce	Elizabeth Adey
2.45 - 3.15	Conservation and landscape in Luton	Trevor Tween
.15 - 3.30	Concluding remarks BLHA Chairman	Stephen Coleman
3.30	onwards transfer to Luton Museum & Art Gallery - for a further opportunity to visit the new Luton Life Galleries, including light refreshments.	

The Friends of Luton Museums, Luton & District Historical Society and Luton Museum & Art Gallery hope that you have had an interesting day and an illuminating insight into the history of Luton.

We wish you all a safe journey home.