

GOOD HISTORY

Journal

of the

Eynsham Junior

History Group



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The Journal of the Eynsham Junior History Group

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• Uncredited articles are a result of Group discussion.

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Acknowledgements

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Desk Editor: D. S. Richards

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EDITORIAL

In this edition we are 'looking back' in different ways. Firstly, we are looking back to last term and we have some (I am afraid rather dark) copies of photographs taken on trips. We also include a contribution from Lydia Ferres, to whom we had to say farewell as she moved on to Bartholomew School. In June Lydia was able to join the senior History Group on a trip to Kingston Bagpuize House and I am sure when you have read her article you will want to go there too.

We have been looking right back to the beginnings of Eynsham and how it has developed through hundreds of years. We also thought that as the West Wing were studying a civilisation thousands of years older than ours we would include some of their work. Much of our knowledge of Ancient Egypt has come from excavations. We have not been out digging through the earth but we have been searching through documents and reports on documents.

Mr Whelan is still missed. £40.00 was raised from donations for our special edition of *Good History* and sent to the British Heart Foundation, who promised to use the money "carefully and wisely". I am sure Mr Whelan would have approved of these words and sentiments. Professor Margaret Marker is now a valued member of our group. As I have always thought that the history of a place depends on the situation it occupies it is wonderful to have the support of a geographer! Sadly, Mrs Ord has had to move away from Eynsham.

Thanks once again to Mr Keates and the Staff and, of course, to the children who make it all worthwhile.

KINGSTON BAGPUIZE HOUSE by Lydia Ferres

History:

In the Battle of Hastings in 1066, the manor's Saxon owner (Turchil) fell and his lands were forfeit. They were granted to Henry de Ferrers, by William the Conqueror, then leased by him to Ralf de Bache puis. His family remained at Kingston for more than 200 years. During this time the name became anglicised to Kingston Bagpuize.

The manor was then passed to John Kingston in 1290 and, 252 years later, was sold to John Latton, who promptly built a moated farmhouse (which was demolished in 1728).

In 1670 he sold it to Edmund Fettiplace, whose daughter married John Blandy. Their heirs continued to own the manor until 1917 when it was bought by Edward Strauss, M.P. After becoming bankrupt he sold it to Lord Edbury in 1935.

He sold it to Miss Marlie Raphael who lived there until her death, 37 years later, when it was passed on to her niece Lady Grant, widow of Sir Francis Grant, 12th Baronet of Monymusk. She married Lord Tweedsmuir II (eldest son of John Buchan) in 1980. 15 years later it was given to its current owner Mr Francis Grant (2nd Son of Lady Grant) who lives there with his wife, his two children and their black labrador, Musky.

The House:

The Entrance Hall is dominated by the staircase and gallery, which are thought to date from 1720. This entrance hall, just like so many others, was designed to advertise to visitors that important, or more often, wealthy people lived in the house. Three feet thick walls support the pine and oak staircase, so that no columns are needed to hold it up. It was stripped of its original paint in the 1920s by Edward Strauss. The wallpaper was handpainted and brought to England from China, supposedly by Marlie Raphael, who did a tour of the far-east in 1935. She also collected four vases and a Chinese pillow. The wall paper is a subject of great discussion, as it does not fit the wall space it was put on. Marlie Raphael was supposedly very particular, so her buying something that was too small was rather odd. The wallpaper shows trees and shrubs, small animals and butterflies, flying the wrong way.

The Drawing Room has a glass cabinet which contains the remaining documents relating to the house including sale deeds of 1670 and 1728. The room's furniture includes a pair of Queen Anne cabinets in walnut with laburnum stands, a pair of Louis XV kingwood

and endcut floral marquetry encoignures [encoignure - a little cupboard which stands in a corner] with marble tops, two armchairs of Hepplewhite design with tapestry seats in *Bros* and *petit point* which were done by Marlie Raphael, a set of Louis XVI giltwood chairs and sofa upholstered in Beauvais tapestry and twin fireplaces. On a table sits a tiny bird in a cage which sings sweetly when a switch is flicked.

The family use the Library as their sitting room. The porcelain is Chinese *famille verte*, the pedestal desk is made of Georgian mahogany and has a serpentine front. The stool and chairs are covered in contemporary needlework and the delicate carving around the chimney piece is slightly later than the 1720s black marble surround.

A sofa in the corner of the Small Sitting Room hides the family television from view so as not to spoil the room's decoration. A twentieth century pastiche moulding was put up above the door by Edward Strauss in 1920. Lord Edbury removed it in 1936 but it was put back up again after the war by Marlie Raphael.

We saw two bedrooms. The Rose Bedroom is positioned over the drawing room and has a transitional kingwood and parquet breakfront commode. It was partitioned and panelled by the Blandys and was originally part of another room. The Pink Bedroom has a fancy bedquilt which has been kept away in a cupboard to stop it becoming faded and damaged and has pink curtains. Both bedrooms have four-poster beds, Georgian furniture, painted panelling and original thick glazing and window bars.

In the Dining Room there is a Victorian pollard oak table which extends to seat eighteen people. By the fireplace sits a child's highchair. This chair can be unscrewed to form a small chair and table, giving options as to where to feed your child. This is the only room which hasn't had its wood stripped of its paint.

The paintings in the house include one by Thomas Gainsborough and one by George Romney.

Lydia enjoying some well earned refreshment after her
tour of Kingston Bagpuize House

SOME NOTES ON EYNHAM by Matthew Marks

The Italian restaurant used to be called The O'Leary's. The house Chesneys was built in 1898 on the site of Newland Lodge which was burnt down. London art decorator Colonel Schmidt, who might have been responsible for the house's unique design both inside and out, probably lived there with his family. His initials are over the former front entrance to the house. In the early part of the 20th century it appears that the family were greatly involved in village life until the 1st World war, when being Germans living in Britain was not at all easy. The family changed their surname to Marshall. The two animal statues were moved to the front entrance of the house.

The bridge down Chilbridge road is said to be mediaeval. The Eynham Tuesday

Fellowship has been around for at least 20 years. Eynsham's Royal British Legion, Women's Section has been around for at least 40 years.

[This information was extracted from *The Changing Faces of Eynsham, Book I* by Martin Harris]

SOME THOUGHTS ABOUT THE STONE AGE by Joshua Smith

The Stone Age was in BC, which means 'Before Christ'. In the Stone Age people had to have stone houses. They didn't have any transport. They had to kill animals with knives and hammers made from flint. For their clothes they used animal skins and they used bones for tools. I find the Stone Age very interesting

Flint arrowheads.

Flint knife and scraper

LOOKING BACK TO SUMMER 2000

Walk by Thames

The photographs which were taken on our walk last June would be very different if they were taken now, in early November. We would not have been able to stand by the paddle store or on the bridge because of the floods.



Nevertheless the floods this year did not come up to the level of 1947 or the much higher level at the end of the 19th century, as marked on the side of Swinford Toll Bridge.

A Sampler

Miss Price, who has been a good friend to our History Group, retired in the summer of 2000. In a great tradition of showing diligence, neatness and concentration the children of Eynsham Primary School produced a splendid sampler which was presented to her to remind her of so many things which have happened in school while she was there.

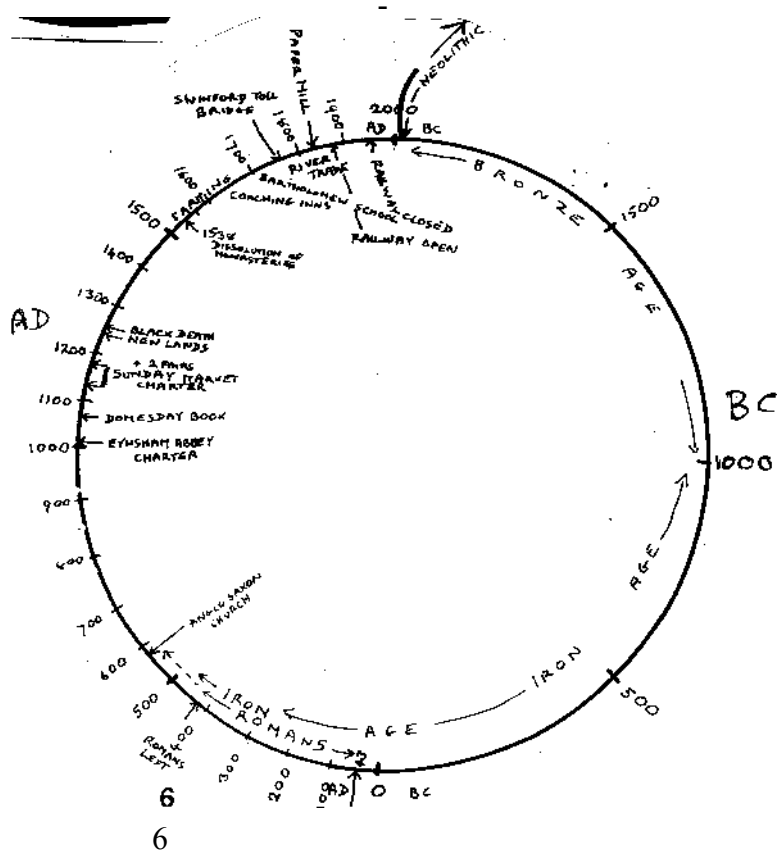


A Kneeler

The church kneeler which was designed by Jessica Scott was completed in time to be on display at this year's Flower Festival

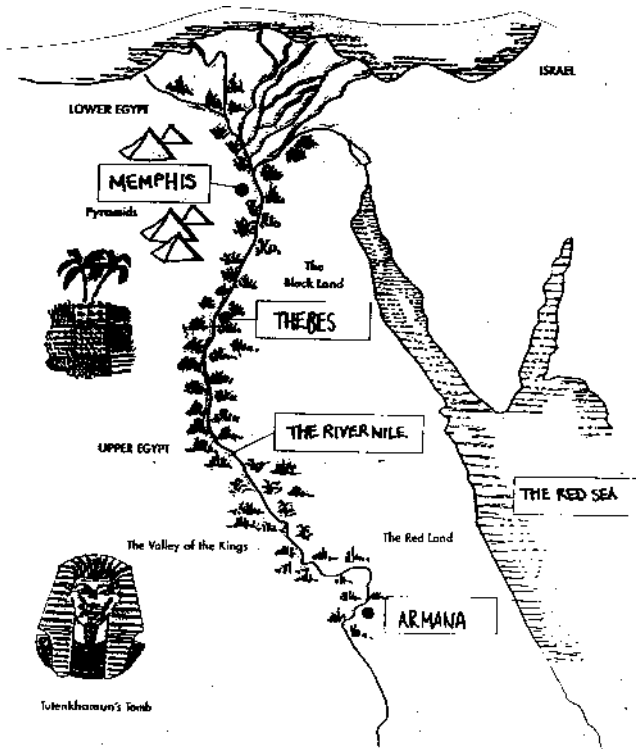
THE DEVELOPMENT OF EYNSHAM

During this past term we have been looking at the development of Eynsham through the ages and have produced two forms of time chart - in the round and from early times linearly.



Pre 2,000 BC	STONE AGE- area was rather wild.
2,000-1,000 BC	BRONZE AGE- Evidence of habitation from crop-marks.
1,000 BC etc.	IRON AGE - Earthworks found near Eynsham Hall.
from 43AD	ROMANS - settlement north of Foxley Farm.
from 410 AD	BRITONS & ANGLO SAXONS evidence of settlement in various parts of village. Remains of Anglo Saxon church in excavations of Eynsham Abbey. Egonesham mentioned in Anglo-Saxon Chronicles in 571AD
1005 AD	Foundation Charter of Abbey.
1066 AD	Norman Conquest. Eynsham Abbey destroyed.
1086 AD	Doomsday Book.
1109 AD	Eynsham Abbey rebuilt.
King Stephen 1135-1154	Eynsham granted Sunday market.
King Henry II 1154-1189	Confirmed Sunday market & granted two fairs.
1186 AD	Hugh of Avalon chosen as Bishop of Lincoln.at Eynsham Council
13th Century	Development of Newland, started by Abbot Adam. Black Death. Population of Tilgarsley mostly wiped out, remainder came to Eynsham.
16th Century	Eynsham now a farming community, first mention of inns. Closure of Abbey. Stones used for building houses
17th Century	Coaching inns mentioned. Important on route west. Parliamentarian soldiers billeted in and around Eynsham in Civil War. First paper mill.
18th Century	Beginnings of Bartholomew School for boys. Building of Toll bridge.
19th Century	Development of river trade, Paper Mill making roofing paper. Coming of the Railway. Education for all. Coming of services, eg. Post Office, Gas, Electricity piped water, telephones.
20th Century	Two world wars. Fading out of farming and introduction of small industry. Expansion, with new estates and schools Closure of the railway, building of bypass

ANCIENT EGYPT



Some Notes by Jimmy Siret

The ancient Egyptians were very civilised people. They made paper out of wood and papyrus. They also used papyrus to make boats. The papyrus reeds grew in the rivers. These boats were capable of being used on the Nile and at sea. They made knives out of stone but spear heads were made from slate.



Part of an Egyptian tablet painted in 200 BC showing Ra the Sun God and his attendants aboard a reed craft

Food and Drink by Jodie Simpson

The gathering of grapes from the vineyards was often the job of foreign settlers or prisoners of war. The grapes were then taken to be crushed by treading. The Egyptians grew most of their grapes in the north of the country just as they do today. Both black and green grapes provided juice for wine.

At an Egyptian banquet servants served the scribes and nobles a large variety of meat, poultry and fruit. Pomegranates were introduced from the East. The shape of pomegranates was often used as a model for jewellery or drinking cups.

Dates were eaten fresh at harvest in August or they could be dried or made into a sweet mash. Dates were made into wine sometimes and even the sap was made into wine.

Pyramids by George Bibby

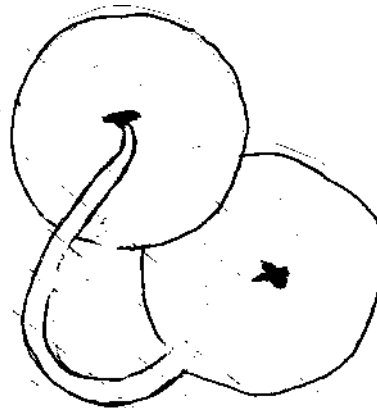
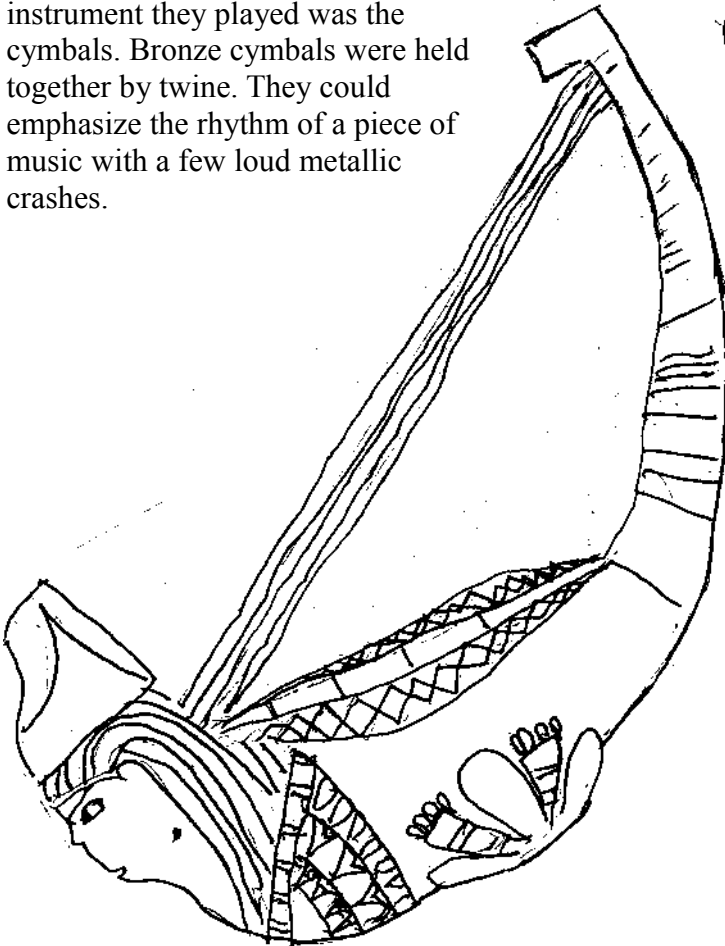
The Egyptian pharaohs of the Old Kingdom built the pyramids in 2500 BC. They were tombs to protect the bodies of the pharaohs inside. No-one really knows how the Egyptians built these pyramids but we can be sure they were the largest stone structures of their time.

The largest pyramid (the Great Pyramid) was built for King Khufu. It consisted of more than two-million blocks of lime stone. Beside it are two pyramids both slightly smaller than the Great Pyramid. One was built for King Khafra. The three tiny pyramids in front are holding Queens of Egypt. One the other side of Khafra's pyramid is a pyramid for King Menheotep who, in 2040, re-united Egypt.

The Pyramids at Giza

Song and Dance by Jodie Simpson

Egyptians enjoyed life to the full. There were even party scenes on tomb walls. Songs on papyri and musical instruments show how important music was to them. One instrument they played was the cymbals. Bronze cymbals were held together by twine. They could emphasize the rhythm of a piece of music with a few loud metallic crashes.



Another instrument the ancient Egyptians played was the flute. The flute is one of the oldest instruments. They were usually made of wood or reed. You would blow directly down this wooden instrument.

The sistrum is a sacred rattle carried by noblewomen and priestesses at ceremonies. It was attached to the woman by a menat' which is a sacred necklace.

One of the most loved instrument was the five-stringed harp. The harp varied in size. Some were as tall as the person playing it. Some harps had only 4 strings and some had as many as 24. The strings were made out of animal guts.

k five stringed harp

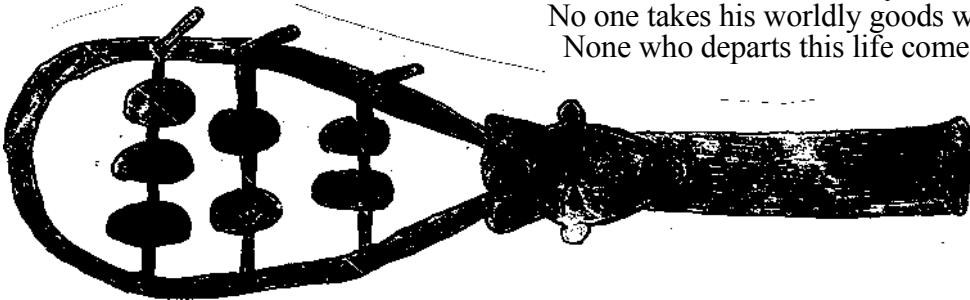
Music, Toys and Games by Lettie Popplewell

The Egyptians loved good music. It was very popular as well as dancing, story telling and poetry. Good professional musicians would be hired and would bring girl dancers for entertainment at banquets. They had no theatres or circuses but people did tell favourite stories. Time was kept by clappers and tambour players while the orchestra made up of flutes, lyres, harps, bells, oboes and lutes. Ceremonial trumpets were found in Tutankhamun's tomb.

Girl musicians from a wall painting in the tomb of Nakht c 1410 BC

They also had banquet songs. This one is supposed to remind you how good life was.

Follow your heart as long as you live
Wailing saves no one from the pit
Make a holiday
Don't be weary,
No one takes his worldly goods with him
None who departs this life comes back



Sistrum (Rattle)

Even as children the Egyptians enjoyed life. Some of the games they played are still loved today like the game of 'khuzza lawizza' otherwise known as leapfrog and tug of war. There are also Egyptian paintings showing boys playing soldiers and girls joining in a sort of spinning dance.

The earliest board game discovered in Egypt was called Snake. The stone board on which the game was played represented a serpent coiled with its head in the centre. The winner would be the first to move his/her counter around the squares on the snake's body to the middle. The stone counters were sometimes carved with the names of Pharaohs

They also had spinning tops and the game Senet. Senet was a game rather like Draughts. It was usually played with five or more pieces a side and four casting sticks (used like dice) on a board of 30 squares

Some children would have a pet monkey but cats were more usual as well as dogs.

Clothes and Hair by Lettie Popplewell

In hot countries like Egypt it is necessary to wear light and cool clothes. For the Ancient Egyptians the basic fashion was for men to wear a short kilt and for women to wear a simple shift-like dress. The material used would have been fine white linen. Elaborately pleated dresses and tunics became very popular worn with bright jewellery and wide collars.

Children and servants are usually shown naked on the paintings except for earrings or protective amulets. Egyptians were not at all embarrassed by showing their bodies and didn't wear underwear. In fact the linen was so fine it was almost transparent.

The Egyptians weren't the hairiest of people but they did some times shave their heads and very occasionally their bodies. There was a brief time in Egyptian history when the fashion was to have extremely thin moustaches but they preferred to be clean shaven except for side-locks. Surprisingly, wigs were popular and were found to be comfortable and cool even in hot weather.

The Egyptians thought the Greeks were silly because they had long hair and beards.

Bastet the Cat Goddess by Oliver Taylor



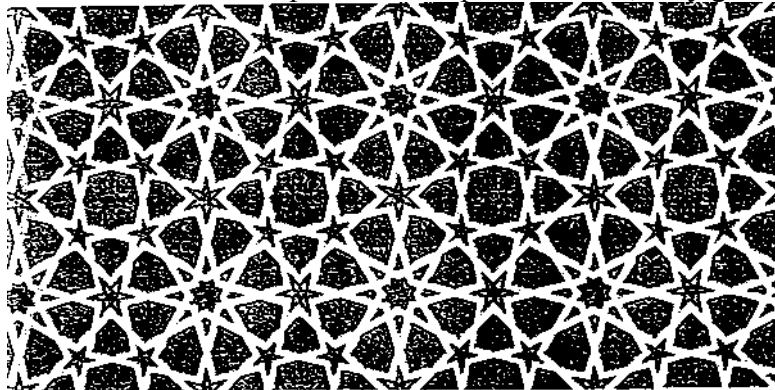
The Cat Goddess Bastet was the daughter of Re, the Sun-god. She represented the power of the Sun to ripen the crops. Many bronze cat figures were dedicated in her now ruined temple in the north east of the Delta.

Drawing by Oliver Taylor

[After the Arab Conquest in 639 AD Egypt became a Muslim state and a different form of art developed]

Islamic Design by George Bibby

In mosques (Islamic churches) images of people are not allowed because of what it says in the Koran and because it is impossible to represent Allah, only geometric patterns



and Arabic writing will be used as decoration



The Basmalah [In the name of Allah, the Merciful, the Compassionate]

Quiz

1. What had come a long way and was a surprisingly bad fit?
2. Why did Colonel Schmidt have to change his name?
3. What material did Stone Age people use for knives?
4. Where do we find the first mention of Eynsham?
5. What special paper was made at Eynsham Mill?
6. From what, besides grapes, did the Ancient Egyptians make wine?
7. What would you be doing in you were involved in khuzza lawizza?
8. Why did the Egyptians think the Greeks were silly?
9. Who was on the throne when the Toll bridge was built?
10. Who was on the throne when The Great Pyramid was built?

Answers

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 1. The Chinese Wallpaper in Kingston Bagpuize House | |
| 2. He was German and Germans were not popular during the war | |
| 3. Flint | 4. Anglo-Saxon Chronicles |
| 5. Roofing Paper | 6. Dates |
| 7. Leap-frog | 8. They had long hair and beards |
| 9. George III | 10. King Khufu |