Langton Matravers Local History and Preservation Society
September 2026

www.langtonmatraversmuseum.org

Calling all people of Langton and Acton ! Does your home have a story to tell ? As part of our work on reviewing our documentary archive, we're gathering stories about homes in the parish where interesting people lived, or things happened, or just finding documents which show, perhaps, when or how a particular house was built or changed. We've found details of people's shopping lists from a hundred years ago, blacksmith's bills and even a carer's bill for an elderly parishioner from 1894. These all help to tell us more about the past life of our village and the similarities and differences with how we live now. You could help us to expand this knowledge and understanding by sending any information about the past history of your home, its residents and their lives. The 20th Century is as important as earlier times. Go to our website www.langtonmatraversmuseum.org and contribute your history through our contact form, giving your home's address at the start. We are hoping to develop an interactive map of the village which can include images of some of the documents which tell these stories, and also, following David Olusoga's lead on the television, are preparing a talk on 'Cottages Through Time' (working title) to bring some of these stories to a wider public. Watch this space !

The Museum closes its doors for the Winter at the end of October: many thanks to all our wonderful custodians for their work in welcoming visitors throughout the season. Could you join the team next year, or perhaps help with chairs, teas etc. at one of our talks ? For further details, make contact via the website.

The first talk will be a 'History of Purbeck Landscape', by Brian Margetson on Thursday 22 October 7-00 for 7-30pm. Louise Haywood follows on Thursday 19 November with 'Corfe - then and now'. Dates for 2027 will follow in future newsletters. We hope that Mary Sparks's new booklet, 'Mapping the Manors' will be available to purchase at these talks, as will the full range of other booklets. The latest edition of 'The Stone Quarries of Langton Matravers' by Reg Saville, with new additional material, will shortly be going to print: watch out for that too.

Daryle Pearson and Mary Sparks, Publicity and Communications, LMLHPS.