

*We invite you to become one of the 400 plus members of ...*

# ***The Southborough Society***

*Registered Charity no. 260979*



*The civic, heritage and amenity society for Southborough  
including the community of High Brooms*

For further information phone:

01892 542528 or 01892 528355

[www.southborough-society.org.uk](http://www.southborough-society.org.uk)

## ***Would you like to ...***

- *Be informed about future plans for the town?*
- *Contribute your views about how we should protect and enhance our town?*
- *Find out more about the fascinating past of Southborough and the High Brooms area?*
- *See the town's valuable nature conservation sites and historic buildings protected for future generations?*

*If so, we believe the best way is to **join us.***

## ***Our activities include ....***

- a. Debate, comment and **representation on local planning issues** affecting the environment, the town and its heritage*
- b. **Support for local conservation and restoration projects***
- c. Production of an informative quarterly **Members' newsletter***

Recent articles have included: The Pumping Station, Modest Corner; The Railway Line that never was; Historic Homes on Trotting Hill; Tunbridge Ware; High Brooms brick works; Honnington Farm; Royal Victoria Hall; and recycling a Wesleyan Chapel
- d. **Indoor meetings** during the winter months, held in either High Brooms or Southborough, on subjects of local interest*

The Society regularly arranges talks by local experts. Some recent and planned future topics include: High Brooms in Victorian times; Six centuries of Crime and Punishment; High Brooms in World War II; a History of the Royal Victoria Hall; Mabledon in words and pictures; Southborough's local wildlife.
- e. **Special exhibitions and events**, using our unique **archives***
- f. Publication of **maps, leaflets and other information**; and maintenance of our own **website***
- g. **Guided walks** around the town promoting awareness of the region's heritage and special features*
- h. **Projects** with the local schools and students*
- i. Organising a regular **photographic competition***

## ***And here are some of our publications ...***

***Historic Map of Southborough and High Brooms** – a great gift idea, available for purchase: in colour, illustrated and suitable for framing*

***Cycling around Southborough** – a free leaflet, downloadable as a PDF file*

***Street names and Place names in Southborough and High Brooms** – a booklet available for reference in local libraries*

***Southborough and High Brooms in Millennium Year 2000** – a CD-ROM in presentation case, available for purchase*

# Sign-up to join us now ...

*Please enrol us/me in the Southborough Society.*

*Full name or names*

.....

.....

*Address* .....

.....*Post Code*.....

*Tel:*

*E-mail:*

.....

.....

*(Please note that the above details will not be divulged to a third party)*

*Please let me have a Standing Order form*  *(tick here)*

*OR: I enclose a cheque payable to the Southborough Society for £ .....*

## ***Membership subscriptions (from April 2008)***

*Annual membership: £5 individual; £8 family*

*Five-year membership: £21 individual; £33 family.*

*Additional donations and bequests welcomed.*

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## ***Confirmation of eligibility for Gift aid*** ***(Please tick here, sign above and date)***

*I want the Southborough Society to treat all subscriptions and any other donations I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise as Gift Aid donations. I realise that in order for the Southborough Society to claim Gift Aid on my donations I must pay an amount of British Government income tax and/or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax that the Society reclaims on my donations in the tax year.*

***When completed, send to:***



*The Southborough Society*

*c/o 19A Gallard's Close, London Road, Southborough, Tunbridge Wells TN4 0NB*

# ***What's so special about Southborough and High Brooms?***

***A rich heritage that's traceable back to the Middle Ages, and even to pre-historic times:***

- *The remains of an iguanodon have been found in High Brooms*
- *"de la Holdenne" (the area around Holden Corner) is recorded from 1254; Southborough Common from 1280*

***An important and varied collection of historic architecture:***

- *There are over 40 listed buildings in Southborough and High Brooms. These include a fifteenth-century farm house, a Victorian railway viaduct, and exceptionally fine Victorian stables.*
- *The red brick buildings in the town, made by the High Brooms Brick and Tile Company, display a range of decorative plaques and ornamentation which are probably unique*

***Countryside surroundings, with woods, footpaths and other local amenities including two notable nature conservation sites***

- *There are two important wildlife sites open to the public: Southborough Common and Barnett's Wood*

***An association in the past with some radical people and politics!***

- *The Constable of Southborough took part in Jack Cade's rebellion against the ill fated Henry VI*
- *Sir Thomas More, author of "Utopia", lived at Great Bounds*
- *The first British MP who was a practising Jew, Sir David Salomons, lived in Southborough. An exhibition about the Salomons' legacy is open to the public at the former family home*
- *The first British woman Cabinet Minister, Margaret Bondfield, retired to the town.*

*... and today, a lot of people who care about their community.*