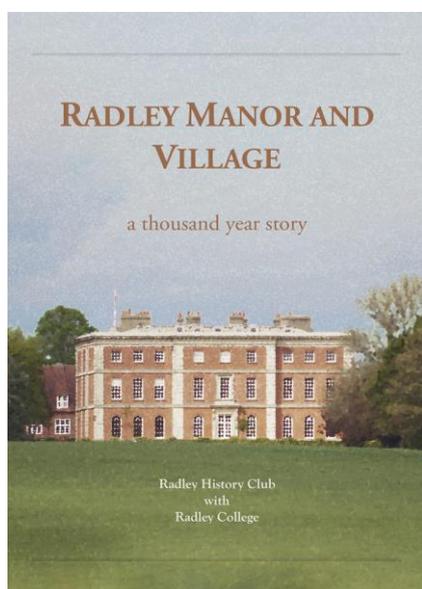


NEW BOOK FROM RADLEY HISTORY CLUB



Available from 30 November 2019

from Radley Village Shop

or order from the Club's website at
<https://www.radleyhistoryclub.org.uk>

Price: £15 plus postage and packing

This illuminating book tells the history of Radley's manor and its relationship with the village from around the time of the Norman Conquest to the present day.

It was researched and written by a group of Radley History Club members in collaboration with Radley College's archivist. It includes:

- 44 illustrations and maps, 17 in colour
- evidence for the two 'Radley Parks'
- evidence from probate inventories
- Stonhouse and Bowyer family trees

Radley Manor and Village: a thousand year story provides a detailed case study of the manorial system and how it flourished, evolved and eventually declined. An introductory first chapter sets out recurring themes, such as land ownership, and each chapter starts by reviewing the national context.

Chapter 2 explains the manorial system and covers the period c.1050 to 1500 when Radley was part of the manor of Barton, held by Abingdon Abbey. During this period some villagers began to escape servility, acquiring larger land holdings and building durable homes. Chapter 3 takes us to 1560 by which time Radley was a manor in its own right, newly acquired by the Stonhouse family, aspiring gentry. They remained lords of the manor for over 200 years. Chapters 4, 5 and 6 look in detail at the family, their buildings and grounds in Radley, and their changing relationship with the village as land was enclosed.

In the 1720s the Stonhouses commissioned William Townsend and Bartholomew Peisley to build Radley Hall (pictured), now part of Radley College.

Chapter 7 covers the period 1795 to 1914, for most of which the Bowyer family held the manor. Following their eventual bankruptcy in 1889, most of their land was sold to Mrs Josephine Dockar-Drysdale and then to Radley College. Chapter 8 completes the story of Radley manor by taking us up to the present day and includes details from the lives of villagers David and Beryl Buckle.