

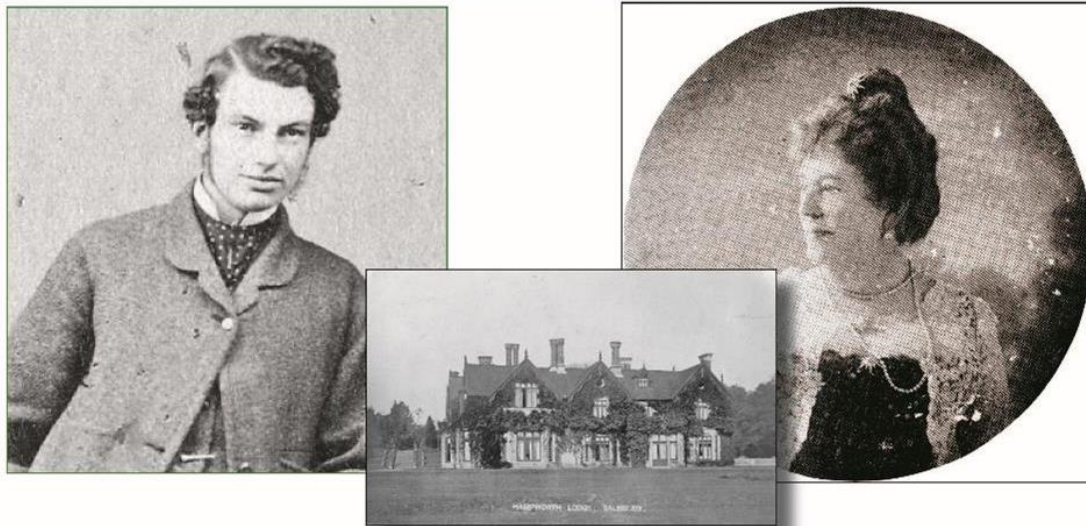
Redlynch & District Local History Society

Secret Marriage The Riddle of the Hamptworth Morrisons

by Georgina Babey and Peter Roberts

Allowing for the uncertainties of the current situation Redlynch and District Historical Society had a talk in a different format.

Georgina Babey and Peter Roberts based their talk – Secret Marriage - on research following their delving into the private archives held by the Andersons of the Hamptworth Estate. The life of George Morrison and his wife was shown in a video presentation.



Inheriting a fortune at 21 he bought the 2,000 acre estate and proceeded to add more than another 1,000 acres before his early death in 1884 at the age of just 44.

Eight years earlier he had secretly married the divorced Jane Barbara Bastable in Dublin. Her early life was a tale of poverty, beatings by her first husband and a mystery child. A legal battle for the estate with George's family followed Morrison's death. She won and ran the estate successfully for the rest of her life ably supported by her daughter 'Miss Charlton'. They were a notable philanthropic couple and many of their bequests are still manifest e.g. Nomansland School.

Questions were then answered by the speakers.

Our next talk, which comes highly recommended, is on the 1st February at 7:30pm Woodfalls and Morgans Vale Hall, by Lesley Self, The History of Salisbury District Hospitals

On 1st March Dr Gale Pettifer will be talking about The New Forest and its communing, past, present, and future.

Bob Inns
Secretary