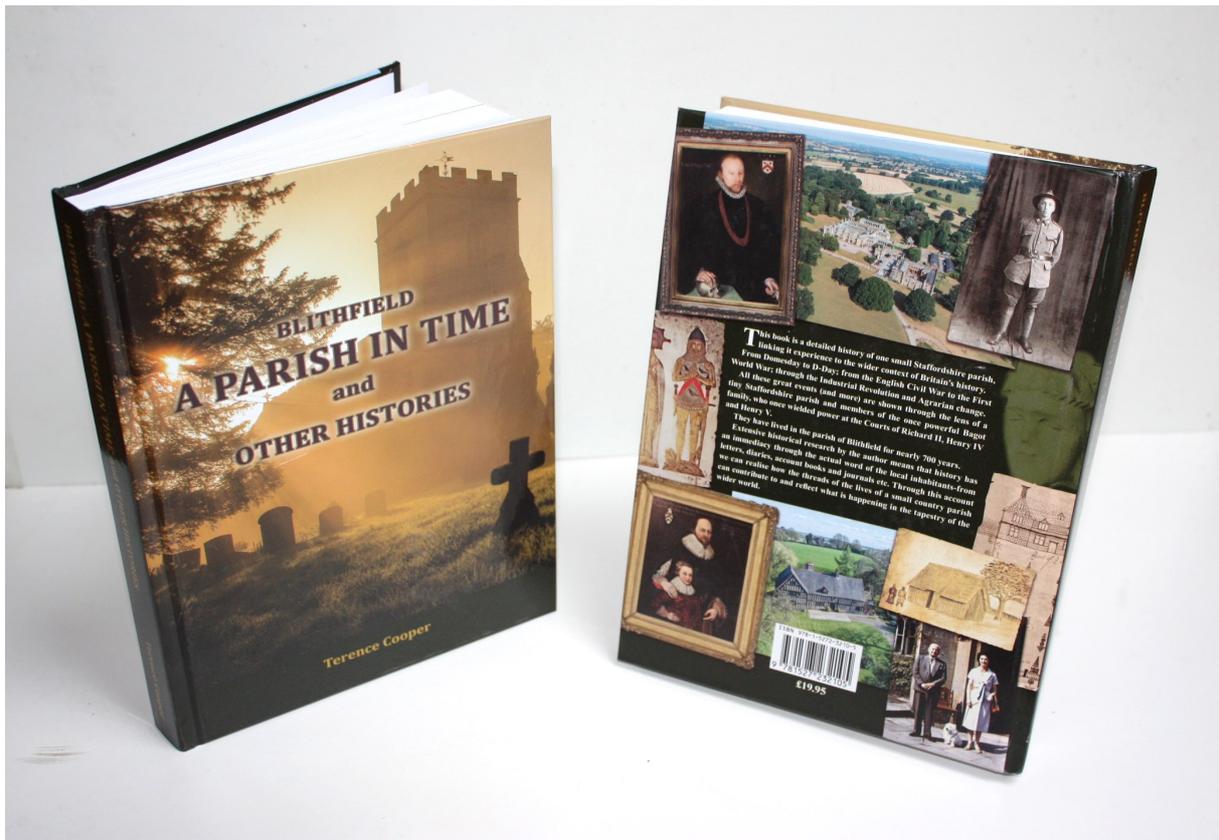


Blithfield: A Parish in Time and Other Histories **by Terence Cooper**



A new book has just been published locally. It is a 300 page detailed history of one local Staffordshire parish and also provides a journey through our country's history.

Using many well researched primary sources - letters, accounts, diaries, journals etc. so that people's actual voices are heard - Mr Cooper not only gives a fascinating insight into one small corner of England but also makes the link to the wider context of British history.

From the Domesday Book to D-Day; from the English Civil War to the First World War; through the upheavals of Agrarian and Industrial change. All these are discussed through the lens of Blithfield and the Bagot family - a family who wielded power at the courts of medieval kings and in many areas of British life. They have been in residence at Blithfield Hall for over 700 years.

An account of how Blithfield Reservoir was constructed is also included.

You can discover many interesting facts: how much would you get for 52 dozen rat's tails in the 18th century; how to make " A Medicine Against Synewe Spreans or Other Aches in the Lymes" and how a grave in Blithfield churchyard is linked to Napoleon Bonaparte as well as reading about a 19th century lady's crush on one William Bagot which is worthy of a Jane Austen novel!

A topical inclusion, 100 years after the end of the First World War, details those lost from the parish in that conflict and the battles in which they fought.

Through this compelling and well illustrated book we are brought to realise how the lives of one small parish are woven into the tapestry of the wider world.

For anyone interested in local history, or indeed any history, this book is a 'must read'.

Ruth Glew.

The book can be purchased from Cash Stores , Lichfield Road, Abbots Bromley, Rugeley Library, Anson St. or by arrangement direct from the Publisher/Author- TeeCee Publications - e-mail teeceepublications@btinternet.com - tel: 01889 500611 or 01889 500377. It is priced at £19.95. ISBN 978-1-5272-3210-5