

## What is Booker & District Local History Group and what do we do?

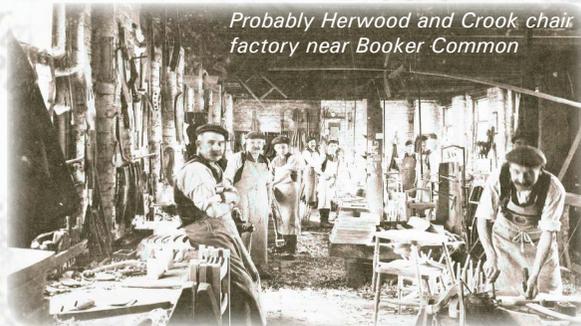
- An informal local history group
- No specialist knowledge needed
- We research, record and share our history
- We meet every six weeks or so
- We produce articles & occasional lectures
- We ask questions



*Near Sherwood and Crook's furniture factory at Silvey Hill, Booker. c 1900*



*Booker Hill Farm*



*Probably Herwood and Crook chair factory near Booker Common*

If you are interested just send an email to [info@bookerpast.org](mailto:info@bookerpast.org) and we will be happy to invite you along.

*With thanks to Bob Mead, and the Sharing Wycomb's Old Photos website [swop.org.uk](http://swop.org.uk)*

# Booker Past

**Booker's local history group**



*Booker Turnpike 1939*

[www.bookerpast.org](http://www.bookerpast.org)  
[info@bookerpast.org](mailto:info@bookerpast.org)

## BOOKER PAST

Booker & District Local History Group is an informal group with an interest in researching, recording and sharing the history of our area. We meet every six weeks or so to talk about a variety of local historical topics. Everyone is welcome to join our group. No specialist knowledge is required.

### The Battle of Booker

In September 1913 a 25,000 strong army training battle ended here. The battle started between a White and Brown Force at Aldershot. White was defeated and retreated north across the Thames. The Brown Army followed rather tardily after Marlow and Henley bridges had been 'blown up'. Some crossed at Sonning, others used a pontoon bridge at Medmenham. It was not an unqualified success as four horses fell into the river. The final stand was on Booker Hill when over 100 guns and troop charges from three directions brought about the ceasefire. The image shows a White force rider in Clay Lane, Booker.

Booker and the areas around us are incredibly rich in history. In the 13<sup>th</sup> century Booker was known as the tithing of Bokar.



*Horns Lane at Booker Turning*



*Sherwood and Crook chair factory near Booker Common*

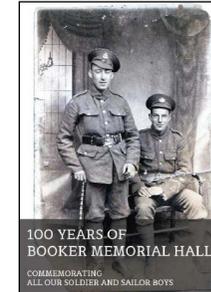


*Lone White Force rider in Clay Lane*



*Smiths Farm, Squirrel Lane*

## SOME BOOKER PAST ARTICLES



### Booker WW1

A memorial to the Booker servicemen who died and who returned from WW1. [Read the Booklet here](http://www.bookerpast.org/100-years-of-booker-memorial-hall-commemorating-all-our-soldier-and-sailor-boys/) <http://www.bookerpast.org/100-years-of-booker-memorial-hall-commemorating-all-our-soldier-and-sailor-boys/>



### How the Spanish Civil War came to Booker

The story of the 31 school children who came to Booker as refugees from the Spanish Civil war. [To download a copy](http://www.bookerpast.org/a-suitable-climate-how-the-spanish-civil-war-came-to-booker/) <http://www.bookerpast.org/a-suitable-climate-how-the-spanish-civil-war-came-to-booker/>



### Booker Wesleyan Methodist Chapel

Our Wesleyan Methodist chapel was opened on 18th January 1848 and only closed in 1998 when the final service was held in conjunction with the Harvest Festival. [To download a copy](http://www.bookerpast.org/booker-wesleyan-methodist-chapel/) <http://www.bookerpast.org/booker-wesleyan-methodist-chapel/>



### Booker School 1898 - 1939

The article starts by looking briefly at how education for all spread throughout this country and then see how Booker followed this pattern. [To download a copy](http://www.bookerpast.org/booker-school-1898-1939/) <http://www.bookerpast.org/booker-school-1898-1939/>