

## Dorset History Centre and Dorset Museum, Dorchester

### Dorset

Our fourth Society meeting, on 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2011, was based at the Wessex Royale Hotel, Dorchester, where old acquaintances were renewed and new ones made. Other members joined us on Saturday for the visit to the Dorset History Centre, where we were able to study Anne Falkner's childhood memories of Dorchester in the 1860s-1870s, as well as JMF's accounts of a similar period and the period 1871-80, when the family moved to Weymouth. We then visited Dorchester Museum, to view the fine collection of Anne Falkner's paintings and the small display on Moonfleet. Then it was on to Buckland Ripers and Fleet churches, both with Falkner associations, and a walk down to the Chesil Lagoon. In the evening, back at the hotel, we had a fascinating talk by Philip Weller and watched excerpts from the Fritz Lang and BBC versions of Moonfleet. We were also visited by the youthful cast of 'Moonfleet' – Angel Exit – which had successfully toured Britain recently.

On Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July, some of us tracked down the Dorchester home of Falkner, and visited other sites of interest.



The Group at the Dorset History Centre



Visiting Buckland Ripers Church



Outside Fleet Old Church



Angel Exit theatre group



West Walks – Meade Falkner's home