

GIETE, Somerset

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ADVANCE INFORMATION SHEET No 1

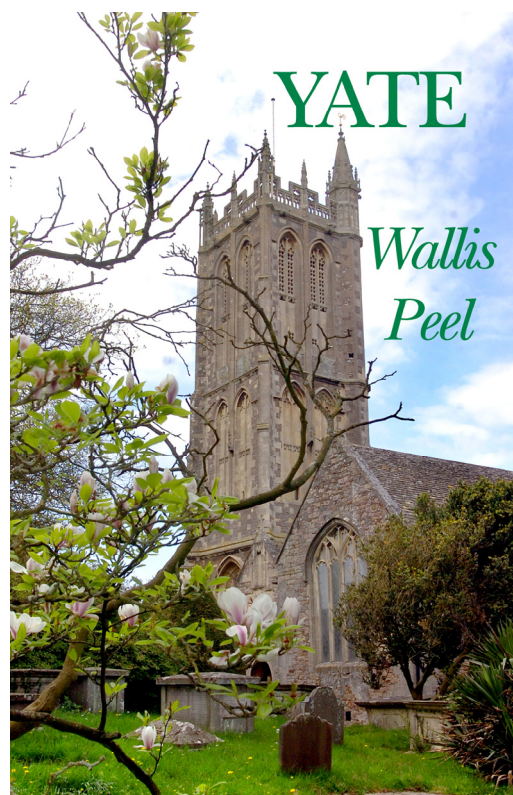
TITLE	YATE
ISBN	PRICE £4.99 pb ISBN 978-0-9568466-1-7
AUTHOR	Wallis Peel
PUBLISHER	GIETE, Somerset
PUBLICATION DATE	20th October 2011
CATEGORY	Local history
SPECIFICATIONS	PB, stitched, 216x 138mm, 48 pages
WHO WILL BUY THIS BOOK?	Those interested in Yate's local history

Yate is a bustling modern town in south Gloucestershire. Wallis Peel's account is of a thriving place, where she delves into a rich and varied history. We are conducted on a tour of its ancient seashell relics, its Cro-Magnon ancestry, and we are quickly acquainted with its beginnings economically. That important flowering is first identified with its dark-haired Dobunni tribe – a contrast to the fairer Celts – who as a trading people reached an accommodation rather than entered into warfare with the Romans.

In a concise and highly conversational survey we are given an English social history rooted in the millennia-old structures of trade and settled society, important innovations underpinning much of life as we live it now. After the Romans and the Dobunni and other tribes of Briton we witness the invasions of the Saxons and the Danes. Airbrushed from history, but restored in Wallis Peel's book, is Aethelflaeda, the daughter of King Alfred, a natural military general and tactician, whose claims to our attention the author argues are greater than those of Queen Boudicca.

But this is only the beginning, in a history that sees paganism overtaken by Christianity, the Norman conquest, and the feudal system that has gradually evolved into the democracy, and into a niche for the individual, that we, and Yate, know now, and all handled with great verve and intimacy by an author closely connected with her time and place.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR Wallis Peel is the writer of numerous published books, short stories and newspaper features. She had the normal working-class education of her era but she hated school and left at fourteen. She spent one miserable year in offices then followed her heart's desire to work with horses. She started at the bottom and worked her way up as she gained experience and knowledge. She started writing in her late twenties then had gaps because of one thing or another but always, at the back of her mind, was the desire to write. Recent books writing under the name of Wallis Peel include *Sea Gem*, set in Guernsey, *Republic* set in Bristol and *Yate*, *Bold Spirit*, *Glorious Gloucestershire*, *Spirit of Defiance*, *Battle Royal*, *Pride of Mercia & Birth of the English*. *Sea Gem* is also available as an unabridged audiobook published by Isis, and all the novels are available in large print and as ebooks. *Fury & Jago*, written under the name of H M Peel have recently been reprinted



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