Hertfordshire Association for Local History

News and Events

Autumn 2026

Charity Number 280449 website: www.halh.org.uk

HALH Annual Symposium 2026

Royalty and Aristocracy in Hertfordshire

The 46th Symposium will be held on Saturday 24 October 2026 at the Marford Memorial Hall, Marford Road, Wheathampstead, AL4 8AY.

This year we'll be looking at some of the monarchs and members of the nobility who played a key role in the life of the county. This will include the Tudor and Stuart monarchs who founded a number of royal properties within Hertfordshire and furnished them with pleasure grounds, deer parks and the like. We'll also be looking at families like the Cecils and Cowpers who enjoyed the delights of their country estates while still being conveniently close to the Court and the seat of government at Westminster and to the commercial heart of the nation in the City of London. Further details of the day's programme are set out overleaf.

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 24 October 2026:
Symposium: *Royalty and Aristocracy in Hertfordshire*, Marford Memorial Hall, Wheathampstead.

Saturday 1 January 2027:
Subscriptions payable (see details below)

Saturday 15 May 2027:
HALH Spring Meeting and AGM, Recreation Pavilion, Pirton.

Thursday 17 June 2027:
Summer Visit, Barkway.

Saturday 9 October 2027:
Symposium: *Literary Hertfordshire*, Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Hall, Rickmansworth.

HALH Subscriptions 2027

Please remember that your 2027 subscription for HALH is due on **1 January 2027**. Further details are contained on the Membership Form which is emailed to members in September and enclosed with the Autumn 2026 issue of *Herts Past & Present* to those members for whom we don't have an email address.

An increase in the subscription was approved at the AGM in May 2024. Members also agreed that the single tier subscription be replaced by one comprising two tiers. These changes came into effect from January 2025 and operate in the following manner:

- HALH divides its membership into the following categories: individual members; joint/family members; and corporate members.
- All individual and joint members for whom we have an email address receive an electronic copy of *Herts Past & Present* on publication, emailed to them as a PDF. They can also choose to have a printed version of *Herts Past & Present* in addition to the electronic version.
- Corporate members receive a printed copy of *Herts Past & Present* on publication and also an electronic copy which they may distribute to their membership.
- The annual subscription paid by individual and joint members depends on whether they choose to have a printed version of *Herts Past & Present* in addition to the electronic version. If they only require the electronic version, then the annual subscription for individual members is £14 and for joint members £17. If they wish to have a printed version, then the annual subscription for individual members is £20 and for joint members £23.
- The annual subscription for corporate members will be £28.

The annual subscription is payable on
1 JANUARY

Details are available on our website:
www.halh.org.uk

or by email from:
membership@halh.org.uk

or from:
Membership Secretary, HALH,
34 Sollershott West,
Letchworth Garden City, SG6 3PX

Committee News

We're currently in need of volunteers to help with the running of HALH. If you were able to become a Trustee on the Executive Committee that would be great, but we fully appreciate that many of our members are involved in other organisations and activities, and are reluctant to take on additional commitments.

We've, therefore, created the post of Associate Committee Member and several people have joined us in this capacity. They're not required to attend committee meetings and are therefore able to concentrate on special projects and initiatives. We particularly need people with IT skills to assist with administrative work.

We currently have committee members who handle the two major roles of Membership and Minutes Secretary. We do, however, need someone to take on the role of General Secretary. This would mainly involve dealing with correspondence; emailing items to members such as the digital copies of *Herts Past & Present*; and assisting with the organisation of HALH events.

We hold five committee meetings a year for which we hire a room at Herts Archives & Local Studies at Hertford. HALS now has facilities for holding 'hybrid' meetings, which means that members have the choice of attending the meeting in person or online. Thus, even if you live on the other side of the county, you can still attend the meetings without leaving home.

If you'd be interested in joining us, either as a Trustee or an Associate Committee Member, please let us know by emailing: enquiries@halh.org.uk

Forthcoming Events

Winter Lecture Series 2027
The HALH Winter Lecture Series, held via Zoom, is now a regular part of our programme. Details of the 2027 Winter Lecture Series will be posted on the website and emailed to members later in the year.

HALH Spring Meeting and AGM 2027
The Spring Meeting and AGM of HALH will take place on Saturday 15 May 2027, at the Recreation Pavilion, Pirton. Admission is free for HALH members, £2 for visitors. The morning session will commence at 11.00. The afternoon session will begin with the AGM, followed by the Lionel Munby lecture. Further details will be included in *News & Events* Spring 2027.

HALH Summer Visit 2027
The Summer Visit will be to Barkway on Thursday 17 June 2027. Details will be emailed to members nearer the time.

HALH Annual Symposium 2027
The 46th Symposium will take place on Saturday 9 October 2027 at Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Hall, Rickmansworth when the theme will be 'Literary Hertfordshire'. Details will be included in *News & Events* Spring 2027.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR LOCAL HISTORY
46th ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

Saturday 24 October 2026 from 10.00–16.00
The Marford Memorial Hall, Marford Road, Wheathampstead, AL4 8AY

Royalty and Aristocracy in Hertfordshire

The programme will include talks on:

Tudor Hertfordshire: Royal Playground, Nursery and Retreat (*Dr Anne Rowe*)
William Cecil: The Second Earl of Salisbury (1591–1668) (*Dr Alan Thomson*)
George Clavering-Cowper, the Third Earl Cowper (1738–89)
(*Dr Heather Falvey*, on behalf of *Philip Sheail*)
Royal visits to St Albans,1541–1665 (*Jon Mein*)
Jacobean Hertfordshire (*Elizabeth Eastwood*)
Sir Richard Lee of St Albans: The military engineer who served four Tudor monarchs (*Sally Pearson*)

Tickets £17 for HALH members; £20 for non-members. We won't be providing a buffet lunch. Members can eat their own packed lunch in the hall and there are also pubs in Wheathampstead which serve food.

Details of how to order tickets online will be emailed to members and posted on our website at the end of September.

If you are not able to book online, please email: **enquiries@halh.org.uk** by 21 October 2026 at the latest to book and arrange payment.