



# Hertfordshire Association for Local History 1949-2024

## **In 2024, the Hertfordshire Association for Local History marks its 75th anniversary and we'd like you to help us celebrate**

Founded in 1949 as the Hertfordshire Local History Council, it originally aimed 'to bring together bodies and persons interested in the study of local history'. The current trustees would therefore like to invite all local history societies, museums and other institutions to join our celebrations.

Postwar Hertfordshire will provide a theme for HALH's own activities throughout 2024, and for our annual symposium in October. The late 1940s and early 1950s saw the return of the armed forces, the end of rationing, the birth of the new towns, the foundation of the National Health Service and the coronation of our longest serving monarch.



In celebrating our anniversary, we would especially like to encourage people to join local history societies, visit the county's museums and engage with heritage projects. If this could involve in-person events, bringing people together, so much the better. We also want to help you promote the work of your society or institution, and to raise the profile of local history research across the county.

Below are several ways in which you might like to participate, but we're happy to receive any other suggestions. In turn, we'll help you publicise anything you organise through our members' newsletter and on social media.

- **Write an article for our members' newsletter about your society, institution, or project, its collection or work. We'd like to nominate a Museum of the Month for our members to visit during 2024.**
- **Stage an exhibition of photographs from the period, perhaps comparing street scenes of the 1940s and 1950s to your town or village today. You'd be welcome to bring this display to our symposium later in the year and send us details for our newsletter.**
- **Tell us about any artefacts you hold from the postwar period, or notable items in your collection.**
  - **Let us know about anyone with a particular interest in researching this period and where they've published their findings.**
- **Arrange a private (paid) viewing of your collection for our members.**
- **Host speakers on a relevant topic and/or provide us with your speakers' list for 2024 so we can circulate it.**
- **Publicise your own 2024 events through us.**
- **Encourage your members, families and neighbours to record their recollections (or their family stories) of life in the postwar period. Even better, submit those recollections to the Herts Memories website hosted by Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies to create a publicly accessible record.**
- **Republish articles on post-war life which may be held in your society's archives, or begin a new postwar research project.**
- **Organise and guide a local history walk of your town or parish.**
- **Tell us about current research projects – postwar or not – or recent publications.**

The above ideas are only a starting point! Please feel free to get creative and let us know what you're planning. We'd also be grateful if you'd forward this email to anyone else who might have an interest in celebrating with HALH next year.

If you, your society or institution would like to join the Hertfordshire Association for Local History in 2024, you'll be very welcome. More information and membership details can be found on our website [www.halh.org.uk](http://www.halh.org.uk) or by email from [membership@halh.org.uk](mailto:membership@halh.org.uk)