



Hertfordshire Association for Local History

(Charity Number 280449)

President: David Short

Affiliated to the British Association for Local History

Spring Meeting & Annual General Meeting Lionel Munby Memorial Lecture

Saturday 18 May 2024

The Alexander Wilding Room, Wylyotts Theatre, Wylyotts Place,
Darkes Lane, Potters Bar, EN6 2HZ

PROGRAMME

- 10.30 Members assemble and set up stalls
- 11.00 Opening (Chairman)
- 11.10 Welcome to Potters bar
- 11.20 Short talks about current historical research in Hertfordshire
- 13.00 Lunch Time
We are currently investigating the possibility of members ordering a lunch online. Further details and a link will be emailed to you. If we don't have an email address for you, a phone number is provided on a separate sheet. You can also bring your own packed lunch to eat on the premises or make use of the restaurants and take-aways in the vicinity.
- 13.45 Annual General Meeting
Presentation of HALH Awards
- 14.15 Lionel Munby Memorial Lecture
The Battle of Barnet 1471
(Mike Noronha, Curator at Barnet Museum)
- 15.00 Questions, followed by tea
- 15.30-16.00 Finish and clear away

Anyone wishing to have a stall should email Ruth Jeavons at:
ruth.jeavons@icloud.com

Hertfordshire Association for Local History

Minutes of the AGM held on Saturday 13 May 2023

Chaired by David Short and Linda Gilley in turn.

1. **Apologies for absence:**

Apologies had been received from Gill and Geoff Cordingley, Françoise Dimsdale, Wilfrid Dimsdale, Amanda-Marie, John and Rudi Newman, Geoffrey Rice, Peter Ruffles, Brendan King, Alan Ruston and Alan Thomson.
2. **Minutes of the AGM 2022:**

These were accepted as a true record by all present with a show of hands. There were no matters arising.
3. **Approval of the Annual Report and Accounts:**

The accounts were approved by all present. [*Proposed, Linda Gilley; Seconded, Jon Mein*]
4. **Election of Officers:**

President [David Short]; Current Vice Presidents [Susan Flood, Linda Gilley, Nicholas Maddex, Alan Ruston, Kate Thompson]; and Chairman [Helen Hofton]. These names were all read out and all present agreed to confirm their election with a show of hands.

The office of Vice-Chairman being currently vacant, Linda Gilley had volunteered to take it on. This was agreed with all in favour. [*Proposed, Ruth Jeavons; Seconded, Chris Brimblecombe*]

The offices of Treasurer [Frank Foy]; Joint Secretary [Ruth Jeavons, Sheila White]; Membership Secretary [Dr Elaine Saunders]; and Editors [Ruth Jeavons, Philip Sheail] were also voted in and accepted by all present. [*Proposed, Nicholas Maddex; Seconded, Jon Mein*]
5. **Members of Executive Committee:**

[Frank Foy, Linda Gilley, Helen Hofton, Ruth Jeavons, Dr Kris Lockyear, Nicholas Maddex, Dr Anne Rowe, Dr Elaine Saunders, Philip Sheail, Dr Alan Thomson and Sheila White.] All the above names were read out and confirmed by a show of hands. [*Proposed, Dorothy Abel Smith; Seconded, Kate Thompson.*]

Chris Bennett, County Archivist, is invited by the Executive Committee to attend its meetings as the properly appointed representative of Julie Gregson, Head of Heritage Services, Herts County Council.
6. **Any Other Business:**

In answer to a question from the floor about a possible decline in subscription income, Treasurer, Frank Foy, assured all present that the change of due date for the renewal of subscriptions (from May to January) along with the move to a new bank would account for this apparent problem (two years being rolled into one). Elaine Saunders, Membership Secretary, was able to reassure all present that membership numbers were holding their own.

Ruth Jeavons, May 2023

Hertfordshire Association for Local History

Annual Report for 2023/24

Events

- The Spring Meeting and AGM took place at Barley Town House on Saturday 13 May 2023. The AGM was followed by the Lionel Munby lecture, entitled 'Commons and Common Rights: The Forgotten Underpinnings of Landscape History', given by Sue Oosthuizen, Emeritus Professor of Medieval Archaeology at the University of Cambridge.
- This year's Summer Visit took place at Gorhambury, near St Albans, where we were the guests of Lady Rosanagh Grimston, Viscountess Grimston and Lady Dione, Countess of Verulam. Tour parties for the house are limited to 15 persons, so the visit took place on four separate Tuesdays in May and June. On two of the dates the party also visited Maynes Farm on the Gorhambury Estate where Lady Verulam took us round the restored early fifteenth-century Abbot Moote Barn. A total of 46 HALH members went on the visit.
- The November Symposium: *Rebels, Traitors and Eccentrics* was held at the Katherine Warington School, Harpenden on Saturday 14 October 2023. The programme comprised six talks and a performance of songs from the 'Chartist Hymn Book' by the Chiltern West Gallery Quire.
- The Winter Lecture Series was staged once again. It comprised a series of free online evening talks held one per month during the first quarter of 2024.
- Two map workshops were held at Welwyn Garden City library in March and April led by Mike Smith, Chairman of Wheathampstead History Society. The workshops gave an overview of the many invaluable mapping websites for local historians and how to access and use them. They focused not only on how on-line sources can be used for historical research but how local historians can produce their own maps, publications and displays.

Committee (Trustee) Meetings

- We have continued to hold face-to-face meetings at HALS and meetings conducted via Zoom. A video link has been installed in the Lionel Munby Room at HALS, which means we can now also conduct 'hybrid' meetings. Meetings were held in 2023-24 at HALS on 7 June, 13 September, 8 November and 14 February, and via Zoom on 24 January. The bulk of our business continues to be conducted via email.

Other activities

- *Herts Past and Present* and *News and Events* were circulated to members in March and September. These were in addition to the free copies sent to Public Libraries in Hertfordshire. Members continued to be given the option of having an electronic instead of a printed version; 25 members took up this option for the Spring 2023 issue and 20 for the Autumn 2023 issue.
- Our website: www.halh.org.uk continues to inform both members and the public and includes links to other societies in Hertfordshire. Our online local history speakers list provides details of more than 260 talks and walks offered by over 40 individuals and organisations, many of whom can offer talks online.
- Social Media: We now have over 1,200 followers on X (formerly Twitter) and a presence on Instagram (Hertfordshire-history).
- Members of the public and HALH members can contact HALH by use of the 'Contact' option on the website: www.halh.org.uk

Financial

- Treasurer's Report to be issued separately.

Publications

- We continue to work with both the Hertfordshire Record Society and The University of Hertfordshire Press for the promotion of their relevant publications.

Helen Hofton, February 2024

Hertfordshire Association for Local History

AGENDA for the Annual General Meeting

Saturday 18 May 2024

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the AGM 2023
3. Approval of the Annual Report and Accounts
4. Election of Officers
 - (a) President [Heather Falvey]
 - (b) Vice Presidents [Susan Flood, Linda Gilley, Nicholas Maddex, Alan Ruston, Kate Thompson]
 - (c) Chairman
 - (d) Vice-Chairman [Linda Gilley]
 - (e) Hon. Treasurer [Frank Foy]
 - (f) Joint Secretary [Ruth Jeavons, Sheila White]
 - (g) Membership Secretary [Dr Elaine Saunders]
 - (h) Hon. Editors [Ruth Jeavons, Philip Sheail]
5. Members of Executive Committee:

[Frank Foy, Linda Gilley, Ruth Jeavons, Dr Kris Lockyear, Nicholas Maddex, Dr Anne Rowe, Dr Elaine Saunders, Philip Sheail, Dr Alan Thomson, Sheila White.]

Chris Bennett, County Archivist, is invited by the committee to attend its meetings to represent Julie Gregson, Head of Heritage Services, HCC.
6. Any Other Business (to be notified in advance to the Chairman)

The names given in brackets above refer to those members who have put themselves forward for nomination to the post listed. Further nominations for any of the above posts must be made in writing on or before Saturday 11 May 2024.

Please email your nomination to:

contact@halh.org.uk

or send it by post to:

*Ruth Jeavons at 44 Necton Road, Wheathampstead,
St Albans, Herts AL4 8AU*