

Hertfordshire Association for Local History

**45th Annual Symposium
'Post-War Hertfordshire'**

Saturday 12 October 2024
10.00 am – 4.00 pm

**Katherine Warrington School
Lower Luton Road, Harpenden AL5 5FH**



Stevenage New Town 1956, by Ben Brooksbank.

PROGRAMME

- 9.00 Arrival of stall-holders and setting up
- 9.30 Registration
- 10.00 Welcome and introduction to the symposium
(Nicholas Maddex, Chair of HALH)
- 10.10 *Hertfordshire Local History in the 1950s and '60s*,
Heather Falvey (President of HALH)
- 10.45 *Stevenage New Town: A New Jerusalem!*,
Chris Bennett and Dr Alina Congreve
- 11.10 COFFEE
- 11.40 *The Austerity Years: Life in Watford, 1945-1950*,
Helen George
- 12.10 *Local History and its Public Image in the 1940s*, Philip Sheail
- 12.45 LUNCH
A buffet lunch is available for those who've ordered and paid in advance
- 2.15 *Innovation and Investigation – Hertfordshire and the Jet Age*,
Rudi Newman
- 2.50 *Bedsteads, Go-carts & Lawnmowers: Student life and learning
in Hatfield, 1952-1992*, Julie Moore
- 3.20 Speakers from St Albans (Jon Mein), Harpenden
(Roger Butterworth) and the Herts Gardens Trust
(Sue Flood) will each give a short presentation on their
society's activities
- 3.50 Summing-up and thanks (Nicholas Maddex)
- 4.00 Depart

SPEAKERS

Chris Bennett has been County Archivist at Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies (HALS) since 2013. He was previously Borough Archivist for the London Borough of Croydon (2002-2013) and has also worked at the National Archives and Church of England Record Centre. He is also currently Chair of the East of England Regional Archives Council (EERAC).

Dr Alina Congreve of the Association of New Towns Archives and Museums (ANTAM). Alina has worked as a lecturer and principal lecturer specializing in planning and housing at a number of universities including LSE, UCL, Reading and Hertfordshire. She is currently working part-time as the project manager of the large (420K) Wellcome Trust grant New Jerusalem.

Heather Falvey (President) is Lecturer in Local History both at the Institute of Continuing Education, Cambridge University and the Department of Continuing Education, Oxford University. She is Secretary of the Hertfordshire Record Society and editor of *Pre-Reformation Wills from Rickmansworth Parish (1409-1539)*.

Helen George has degrees from Exeter and Warwick and belongs to both the Abbots Langley and Rickmansworth local history societies. Her particular research interest is in the twentieth-century development of towns, particularly Watford, where she lives. She gives talks to local history societies.

Dr Julie Moore is a Visiting Research Fellow at the University of Hertfordshire. She is a frequent contributor to *Herts Past & Present* and a popular speaker at several local history societies. Her main research interest is Hertfordshire in the nineteenth century.

Dr Rudi Newman is an academic and transport historian, and an active member of the HALH committee, giving talks and organising events and visits for HALH members. He is also an editor of the Hertfordshire Constabulary Great War Society. Occasionally featuring in television documentaries, he recently published the book, '*Railways Round the Chilterns*'.

Philip Sheail is Editor of *Herts Past & Present* and has published several books of local history interest, including HRS Volume 36 *The Third Earl Cowper and his Florentine Household, 1760-90*. His current interest is researching the Herts Rifle Volunteers from 1859-1908.

Directions to Katherine Warington School Lower Luton Road, Harpenden AL5 5FH

The school is in Batford off the B653
(known locally as the Lower Luton Road)
between Wheathampstead and Luton.

Batford is situated near the River Lea
on the outskirts of Harpenden.

It is well served by buses:

357 (Red Rose Travel www.redrosetravel.com)

&

610 Dragonfly (Uno Bus www.unobus.info).

The Thameslink railway station in Harpenden
is well used with a taxi rank available to
take you the short distance to Batford
which is about one mile away and also
accessible by bus, or on foot. Batford is
a twenty-minute walk from Harpenden
or a six-minute bus ride.

There is plenty of parking at the school.