

WARWICKSHIRE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Affiliated to The British Association for Local History
Registered Charity No. 511528

President	Elizabeth, Lady Hamilton	Vice-President	Mr Peter Gregory-Hood
Chairman	Dr John Bland	Vice-Chairman	Dr John Wilmot
Hon. Secretary	Dr Ruth Barbour	Hon. Editor	Mrs Sylvia Pinches
Treasurer & Programme Secretary	Mr Neville Usher		

FIFTY FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 21st March 2017, 7.30pm at
Friends Meeting House, 39 High Street, Warwick, CV34 4AX
(Tea and coffee available from 7pm)

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Chairman's introductory remarks
3. Minutes of AGM 15 March 2016
4. Matters Arising
5. To receive the Annual Report and Accounts for 2016
6. To elect a President
7. To elect a Vice-President
8. To elect officers for the forthcoming year: Chairman, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Programme Secretary, Editor and Membership Secretary.
9. To elect an Executive Committee for the forthcoming year
10. Any other business

Election of Officers and Executive Committee

Gill Ashley-Smith is retiring as Membership Secretary after fourteen years' service and no longer wishes to remain on the committee. Lesley Caine is willing to take over the role of Membership Secretary.

The remaining Officers as below are willing to continue in their positions.

President: Elizabeth, Lady Hamilton	Vice-President: Mr. Peter Gregory-Hood
Chairman: Dr. John Bland	Vice Chairman: Dr. John Wilmot
Hon Secretary: Dr. Ruth Barbour	Hon. Editor: Dr. Sylvia Pinches
Treasurer: Mr. Neville Usher	Programme Secretary: Mr. Neville Usher

The remaining committee members as below are willing to stand for re-election.

Dr. Nat Alcock	Dr. Christine Hodgetts
Dr. Bob Bearman	Prof. Beat Kümin
Mrs. Jane Beevers	Miss Monica Ory
Mrs. Jackie Bland	Mr. David Paterson
Dr. Maureen Harris	Mrs. Christine Woodland

Co-opted member: **Miss Mairi MacDonald** (Editor of 'The Bulletin')

Dr. John Bland has two more years of his three-year term as chairman to serve.

The Executive Committee may have up to twelve members. There are vacancies and nominations are welcomed. Nominations for officers and members of the Executive Committee, with the agreement of the person being nominated, must be sent to info@warwickshirehistory.org.uk by **Tuesday 14th March 2017**.

Talk after the AGM – Dr. Andrew Hopper, University of Leicester, will talk on 'Bereavement and Loss in Civil War Warwickshire'.

Minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting held on 15th March 2016 at 7.15 pm at the Friends Meeting House, Warwick

Chairman: Mrs. Lesley Caine

Apologies received from: Mrs. Christine Woodland, co-chairman and several members

Election of Officers and Committee

The President, Elizabeth Lady Hamilton, Vice-President Mr Peter Gregory-Hood, Vice-Chairman Dr. John Wilmot, Secretary Dr. Ruth Barbour, Treasurer and Programme Secretary Mr Neville Usher, Membership Secretary Mrs Gill Ashley-Smith were re-elected.

Dr. John Bland was elected Chairman for a three-year term. Dr. Sylvia Pinches was elected editor.

The following members of the Committee were re-elected: Dr Nat Alcock, Mrs Jane Beevers, Mrs. Jackie Bland, Dr. Maureen Harris, Dr Christine Hodgetts, Prof. Beat Kümin, Miss Monica Ory. Dr. Bob Bearman, Mrs Lesley Caine and Mrs. Christine Woodland were elected to the committee following their retirement from officer positions. Mr. David Paterson was elected to the committee for the first time. It was noted that the committee wished to continue to co-opt Miss Mairi MacDonald to the Committee.

The Accounts for 2015 were accepted.

The President made a presentation of books to Dr. Bearman to thank him for his incredible service to the society as editor of *Warwickshire History* for 45 years. Mrs Caine, retiring joint-chairman received a flower bouquet. A similar presentation was made to her co-chairman Mrs Woodland at the following evening meeting.

There being no other business the AGM finished at 7:45pm.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 2016

The society had a busy 2016 with a diverse range of events including the usual range of lectures and visits, a whole day conference for our society members and attendance with a stand at various 'history' events.

Getting Online for Research and Publicity' Warwick School, 12th November 2016

This was the third 'umbrella' conference run by the society for its local history society members – 23 of whom were represented on the day. The aim was to discuss both the internet's potential for local history research and its use by societies for publicising their interests and activities.

In his keynote address Professor Beat Kümin from Warwick University introduced the Parish Research Network (my-parish.org) as an example of an online history source.

The morning session dealt with online sources. David Hodgkinson, archivist, described the Warwick County Record Office (WCRO) online catalogue as well as free resources available through computers located at WCRO and in the county libraries. Three experienced researchers, Bob Bearman, Nat Alcock and Stephen Roberts, explored the potential of on-line catalogues of other local archives and thematic websites.

The afternoon was devoted to the use of society websites for communication and publicity. Dr Jan Broadway, both historian and website developer, spoke on setting up websites. This was followed by presentations from John Alexander-Head, Bidford & District History Society; Margaret Rushton and Mick Jeffs, Leamington History Group and Lynda Greasley, The Bedworth Society, on their experience with society websites. All found that the websites aided recruitment and became the main communication channel with members and others. In discussion, the use of social media, especially Facebook could help to reach a younger group of potential members. Sam Collenette, Warwickshire Heritage & Culture, concluded the day by describing the website *Our Warwickshire*, a project in which WLHS has been involved.

Meetings of the Society in 2016

- Tuesday 16th February 2016** Dr. Kate Iles - *The history of the Birmingham Assay Office.*
- Tuesday 15th March 2016** After the AGM, Dr. Maureen Harris spoke on *The "debauched" parson and the "wit-already-expired-rogue", Warwickshire parish politics 1660-1720.*
- Tuesday 19th April, 2016** Richard Dace, *The Earls of Warwick in the 12th century.*
- Saturday 14th May 2016** A visit to Farnborough Hall Grounds with Stephen Wass, *A way with water, extraordinary discoveries in a lost Georgian Park.*
- Saturday 11th June 2016** A visit to Southam including a guided tour and the Cardall Collection.
- Saturday 9th July 2016** A visit to Radway to see the new Battle of Edgehill Exhibition at St. Peter's Church followed by a guided tour led by Rachel Mander of the village.
- Saturday 17th Sept. 2016** A guided tour led by Linda Ridgley of Harbury.
- Tuesday 18th October 2016** Dr. Susan Tungate, *Matthew Boulton and the Soho Mint, Copper to Customer.*
- Tuesday 15th November 2016** Paula McBride, *Magic and Witchcraft in Warwickshire.*
- Saturday 10th December 2016** Our Christmas festivities took place at Upton House (NT) with an exhibition showing the house converted to become the headquarters of the Samuel Merchant Bank during the Second World War. Afternoon tea was followed by a musical interlude including wartime songs. John Bland was the master of ceremonies as well as accompanying the singers on the piano.

The executive committee met on three occasions and sub-committees dealing with publicity and the organisation of the umbrella conference also met.

Outreach/co-operation with other organisations

The society has taken a stall at the following events: Stratford upon Avon Book Fair (January and August), Writers in Warwickshire at Astley, Leamington History Day and Warwick Words History Society Fair.

The society was officially represented at the relaunch of the *Our Warwickshire* Website and John Bland and Christine Woodland have continued their considerable input into this project on behalf of the society.

Publications

Two issues of *Warwickshire History* were published during the year. The first, Volume XVI, Number 4 was the last to be edited by Bob Bearman and contained the winning essays from our 50th birthday competition (2015):

Angela Nicholls, *A convenient habitation fit for Christians to dwell in: Parish housing for the poor in seventeenth-century rural Warwickshire*

Maureen Harris, *The 'Captain of Oliver's Army' and the Wixford Catholics: clerical/ lay conflict in south Warwickshire, 1640-1674*

Volume XVI Number 5 was the first to be edited by Sylvia Pinches and contained the following articles:

Peter Ashley-Smith, *Lord Willoughby de Broke and his Kineton Landing Ground*

Julie Chamberlain, *Women's contribution to public life in early modern Coventry*

Nat Alcock, *Bowling Along for 200 Years: The Halford Bowls Club and its Archives*

The twice yearly *Bulletin* produced by Mairi MacDonald continues to provide information about ours and other societies events.

Thanks

The chairman would like to thank the officers and committee members for their work and support during the year. Thanks go to John Wilmot and those who organised the Umbrella III event.

Special thanks go to Gill Ashley-Smith who has coped with keeping track of the membership for some 14 years.

It is also appropriate to mention 'yourselves' – the membership – who have shown loyalty in attendance and enabled the committee to have confidence to put on events and book authoritative and well-known speakers.

Objectives of the Society

The Society exists to promote the advancement of public education in local history in Warwickshire. In furtherance of this objective, the Society shall:

- a. Co-operate with other bodies having similar interests.
- b. Encourage the preservation of local records, antiquities and objects of historical interest.
- c. Demonstrate ways of studying local history by sponsoring lectures, discussions and by arranging investigations and visits.
- d. Collect and make available information on local history projects and sources within the county.
- e. Undertake such publications as the resources of the society may permit from time to time.
- f. Take other steps which may be necessary in achieving the objects of the Society.

Membership of the Society is open to any person, society, organization, library, or corporate body interested in promoting its objects.

John Bland, Chairman

Warwickshire Local History Society

Receipts and payments account for the year ended

31st December 2016

	2016			2015		
Opening funds:						
Barclays current account			£7			£7
CAF cash account			£933			£684
CAF gold account			<u>£5,624</u>			<u>£5,808</u>
Total cash in hand			£6,565			£6,500
Income						
Subscriptions		£3,257			£2,747	
Tax repayment		£338			£332	
Interest on CAF Gold account		£13			£16	
Meetings & refreshments		£93			£88	
Outings, takings (including party in 2015)	£3,102			£5,924		
Outings, expenses & refreshments	<u>£2,866</u>			<u>£4,976</u>		
Nett profit on outings		£236			£948	
Sale of Publications & carriage costs		<u>£289</u>			<u>£120</u>	
			£4,226			£4,251
Expenditure						
Speakers		£270			£264	
Room Hire		£171			£189	
Essay Competition		£0			£300	
Donation to parish symposium		£0			£100	
Promotion expenditure		£85			£30	
Subscriptions including insurance		£65			£65	
Printing Journal		£1,820			£2,010	
Bank charges		£30				
Postage & secretarial		£872			£878	
Website costs		<u>£85</u>			<u>£351</u>	
			£3,397			£4,186
Surplus (deficit) on the year's activities			£829			£65
						£6,565
Represented by						
Barclays			£7			£7
CAF Cash Account			£649			£933
CAF Gold Account			<u>£6,738</u>			<u>£5,624</u>
Total cash in hand			£7,394			£6,565
Results of outings and celebrations						
	2016		2015			
	No. Attended	Profit	No. Attended	Profit		
Bidford-on-Avon / Farnborough	37	£113	31	£100		
King's Norton / Southam	22	£68	35	£224		
Nuneaton / Radw ay	32	£10	41	£240		
Wixford / Harbury	48	£274	122	£212		
Christmas	44	<u>£143</u>	37	<u>£71</u>		
3rd Umbrella Conference, Warw ick School	52	-£272	-	-		
	235	£336	266	£847		
NB. Deposit paid for Christmas 2017		£100		£100		
Profit as per accounts		£236		£947		
Membership						
	2016		2015			
Individual	136		127			
Family	44		54			
Junior	1		1			
Local History Groups	29		30			
Institutional	14		15			
Honorary	3		2			
	227		229			
Institutions via publications officer	20		18			
	247		247			

I have examined the book and vouchers of the Society and find that the above accounts are correct

Signed D.E. Rickard