



President	Elizabeth, Lady Hamilton	Vice-President	Mr Peter Gregory-Hood
Chairman	Dr John Wilmot	Vice-Chairman	Dr R Bearman
Hon. Secretary	Dr Ruth Barbour	Hon. Editor	Dr A W Watkins
Treasurer	Vacant	Programme Secretary (Outings)	Mrs R Fisher
		Programme Secretary (Lectures)	Mr J Ranahan

FIFTY SEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 18th April 2023, 7.15 pm at Aylesford School, Warwick

AGENDA

- 1) Apologies for absence.
- 2) Minutes of AGM held on 26th April 2022. (Appendix 1)
- 3) Matters Arising.
- 4) To receive the Annual Report and Accounts for 2022. (Appendix 2)
- 5) To elect officers for the forthcoming year.

The President, Elizabeth, Lady Hamilton and Vice-President, Peter Gregory-Hood remain in office.

The following are happy to continue in post:

Chairman: Dr John Wilmot. Vice-Chairman: Dr Bob Bearman.

Secretary: Dr Ruth Barbour. Hon Editor: Dr Andrew Watkins.

Programme Secretaries: Rowan Fisher (Outings)). Membership Secretary: Lesley Caine

The Programme Secretary (Lectures) Jim Ranahan does not wish to stand for re-election. We therefore require a replacement for him.

Sophie Basi has acted as a book keeper for the society but is not a full member of the committee. We are extremely grateful to her for her work on the society's finances and in the preparation of the Annual Accounts.

- 6) To elect an Executive Committee for the forthcoming year – the following are happy to continue as members:
Dr Nat Alcock Dr. Christine Hodgetts
Dr John Bland Christine Woodland
Co-opted member: Mairi MacDonald (Editor of 'The Bulletin')

At the September 2022 committee meeting, Mark Booth (Warwick) and Stella Thebridge (Sutton Coldfield) were co-opted. Both are happy to continue serving on the committee.

Therefore, four vacancies exist on the Committee.

Nominations for officers and members of the Executive Committee, with the agreement of the person being nominated, must be sent to the secretary at info@warwickshirehistory.org.uk by **Monday 17th April 2023**.

- 8) Financial Report (Appendix 2)

- 9) **Proposal to increase membership fees.** Current fees are: *To be completed*

Individual Member	£12.00
Joint/Family Member	£16.00
Junior Member	Free of charge
Local History Society	£16.00
Institutional Member	£20.00

- 10) **Any Other Business**

Minutes of the 56th Annual General Meeting of Warwickshire Local History Society held on 26 April 2022 via Zoom commencing at 7.20 pm

In the Chair: Dr John Wilmot.

Thirty-five WLHS members and members of member societies attended.

Apologies: Gill Ashley-Smith, Lesley Caine, John Cashmore, John & Sally Cohen, Ian McLean, Stella Thebride and Mary Vickers.

Chairman's introductory remarks: The sad death of our Treasurer Neville Usher was noted. As yet the position had not been filled.

Minutes of the 2021 AGM were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Annual Accounts: These were accepted. It was noted that there had been difficulties, due to Mr Usher's death, in finalizing these accounts. The Chairman had led a group of Committee Members (Lesley Caine, Jim Ranahan and Christine Woodland) supported by Sophie Basi, Book Keeper working for the Warwickshire Rural Communities Council, which had drawn together these accounts based on the records left by Mr Usher.

Election of officers and Executive Committee Members for 2022/2023.

Two long serving members of the committee had retired. Dr Maureen Harris had retired during the year when she had moved to Dartmouth. David Paterson had retired due to his increasing involvement with the Historical Association

All the other officers and members were willing to stand for re-election. There were no new proposals and therefore, the officers and committee for 2022/2023 re-elected were:

President: Lady Hamilton	Vice-President	Peter Gregory-Hood
Chairman: Dr John Wilmot.	Vice-Chairman:	Dr Bob Bearman.
Secretary: Dr Ruth Barbour.	Treasurer:	Neville Usher.
Hon Editor: Dr Andrew Watkins.	Membership Secretary: Mrs Lesley Caine.	Programme
Secretaries: Mrs Rowan Fisher (Visits) and Jim Ranahan (Lectures).		

Executive Committee

Dr Nat Alcock	Dr. Christine Hodgetts
Dr John Bland	Mrs Christine Woodland

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

Any Other Business: None

The meeting closed at 7.35pm

Accounts 2022 WLHS Committee meeting Jan 2023

	2022			2021			
Opening funds:							
Barclays current account		7.51				7.51	
CAF cash account		1260.34				739.83	
CAF gold account		10424.13				10322.99	
Total cash in hand			11691.98				11070.33
Income							
Subscriptions		-30.00			2649.06		
Tax repayment Gift Aid		0.00			0.00		
Interest on CAF Gold account		31.52			1.14		
Meeting refreshments		0.00			0.00		
Outings, takings		0.00			232.50		
Outings refreshments		0.00		0.00			
Sale of Publications & carriage costs		0.00			1145.98		
Bank Interest Received		3973.50					
Donations		56.50					
			4031.52			4028.68	
Expenditure							
Speakers		5522.09			120.00		
Room Hire		0.00			0.00		
Outing Expenses		133.75			599.50		
Member refunds		103.90			174.50		
Deposits for future outings		0.00			50.00		
Insurance		0.00			75.00		
Printing		0.00			1040.00		
Packing & distribution		0.00			256.52		
Bank charges		0.00			96.00		
Postage & secretarial		1221.40			551.96		
Sundries		624.49			60.58		
Disbursements		0.00			116.86		
Subscriptions		0.00			143.88		
Website costs incl security certificate		0.00			122.23		
			7605.63			3407.03	
Net surplus/deficit			-3574.11				621.65
			8117.87				11691.98
Represented by:							
Barclays		7.51				7.51	
CAF Cash Account		0.00				1260.34	
CAF Gold Account		6455.65				10424.13	
Total cash in hand			6463.16	-5228.82			11691.98

Notes:

Overdue print invoice paid Jan 22	1058.00	Overdue print invoice paid Jan 22	-1058.00
Three subscriptions paid Dec & Nov for 2023	-40.00		

Insurance for 2022 paid Jan 23	-75.00		
Estimated Gift Aid amount (see notes)	386.00		
Bookkeeping for 2022 to be paid Jan 23	-306.25		
Makes an actual deficit of	-2551.36	Makes an actual deficit of	-436.35

Membership	2022 No	Ann sub	Total Subs	Membership	2021 No	Ann sub	Total Subs
Individual	138.00	12.00	1656.00	Individual	141.00	12.00	1692.00
Family	45.00	16.00	720.00	Family	41.00	16.00	656.00
Junior	3.00	0.00	0.00	Junior	3.00	0.00	0.00
Local History Groups	27.00	16.00	432.00	Local History Groups	28.00	16.00	448.00
Institutional	12.00	20.00	240.00	Institutional	14.00	20.00	280.00
Instutional	1.00	15.00	15.00				
Honorary	0.00	0.00	0.00	Honorary	3.00	0.00	0.00
Honorary (LHG)	1.00	0.00	0.00				
Overseas	1.00	22.50	22.50				

3085.50

3076.00

-30.00 Per accounts

52.00 Rec Nov 21 for 22 Membership

-40.00 Rec Dec 22 for 23 Membership

-18.00

16.10

Consists
of:

Bookkeeping
Unknown DW & JA Bland - May
22

552.5

71.99 expenses - Jackie Bland

624.49

Annual Report 2022

In common with the country as a whole we are slowly returning to normal pre-Covid activity. Our outings continued to be popular. The lectures continued online in the spring but returned to a person

Publications: Two editions of our flagship journal, *Warwickshire History*, were published.

Warwickshire Bibliography: Richard Chamberlaine-Brothers has maintained this valuable resource since 1980. To mark his retirement from this role, he has been presented with a bound copy of the bibliography currently published on our website.

Lectures: All those in 2021 were held using Zoom. We are grateful to the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust for providing technical support and to Jim Ranahan for not only organising
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SANDRA MACDONALD J. O. *Haliwell-Phillipps, Charles Edward Flower and the Shakespeare Autotypes Controversy*

J. P. LETHBRIDGE *Birmingham Banks - George Linnaeus Banks*

JEFF WATKIN *Alderman Thomas Kemp (1848 - 1924) Warwick's Borough Historian: Family Background and Public Service*

R. J. CHAMBERLAINE-BROTHERS *List of Publications on the History of Warwickshire Published in 2021 with Addenda for 2020*

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RICHARD DACE *Richard the Kentishman: a twelfth-century Burgess of Warwick revisited*

JEFF WATKIN *Alderman Thomas Kemp (1848 - 1924) Warwick's Borough Historian: Publications, Societies and the Warwick Pageant*

ROSEMARY S HALL *Coventry's Park Gardens: nineteenth-century Detached Town Gardens*

Accessions to Local Record Offices in 2021 Outings

Outings Once again Rowan Fisher organised a varied programme which was well-supported

Edge Hill 7 May The first pitched battle of the English Civil War took place in fields between the villages of Kineton and Radway. The Royalists started on the Edge Hill escarpment and Essex's parliamentary forces were gathered in the fields below. Martin Russell, Vice-President, Shipston Local History Society guided us around several key sites. Our starting and finishing point was the Castle Pub on top of Edgehill from which we had a panoramic view of the valley below.

Birmingham Guinea Gardens and Birmingham Botanical Gardens Thursday 26 May. This whole day outing focussed on two interesting sites in the leafy suburb of Edgbaston. In the morning Carol Dealey showed us the Edgbaston Guinea Gardens, a collection of Victorian gardens created for the benefit of the shopkeepers and workers from the Jewellery Quarter. These small plots, still beautiful maintained by their occupants in the twenty-first century are reminiscent of the Hill Close Gardens in Warwick. In the afternoon, we walked to the nearby Botanical Gardens. There the Head Gardener led a fascinating tour of this major Birmingham landmark which was founded in 1829.

Compton Verney Archaeology Saturday 2nd July. Hilary Calow a volunteer at Compton Verney showed us some of the interesting landscape and told us about some of the interesting finds (Roman, Anglo-Saxon and Medieval) found in the grounds. Unfortunately, this must have been the wettest day of what was otherwise an extremely dry and hot summer. We had a super tea under the cover of a tent and then viewed the Georgian Chapel - one of the few buildings that Capability Brown designed.

Middleton Hall Wed 7th September. For over five hundred years this building was one of the homes of the Willoughby family better known for another of their residences Wollaton Hall in Nottingham. The oldest part of the building dates from 1285. In the twentieth century the house was abandoned and fell into disrepair before being restored by the Middleton Hall Trust.

Christmas Outing: Baddesley Clinton Moated Manor House. The house was a sanctuary not only for the Ferrers family but also for persecuted Catholics who were hidden from priest hunters in its secret hiding places during the 1590s. Nat Alcock shared the results of his researches into the construction of the building which question some of the currently accepted dates and sequences of the building work. Members then viewed some of the priest holes and admired the lovely Christmas decorations.

Lectures : until October all our lectures were held on Zoom.

Daytime meeting on Saturday 15 January – Emily Bromley told us about the **Black Book of Warwick**

Evening Lectures:

Late Medieval Towns in Arden 15th February Dr Andrew Watkins discussed the origins, nature and location of towns in the County's northern portion.

Members' Meeting 15th March: Two members gave short presentations. 'Rokeby Camp, Rugby', Christine Howling considered this local example of the 1946 Squatters' Movement. **Warwickshire's Role in the Development of Dog Shows.** Ruth Barbour highlighted the major role played by Warwickshire in the establishment of dog shows from 1859 onwards.

Sir Roger Newdigate of Arbury 26 April. Following our AGM, Maria Tauber of Warwick University gave a talk on Sir Roger Newdigate of Arbury during she considered his media engagement and how different types of oral, manuscript and print media helped shape his image and role as MP.

18th October Bill Cook told us about **Long Compton in 1944**. He highlighted how different rural life was at that period. He recommended the film **Twenty Four Square Miles** which is available on You Tube which provides a picture of how difficult life in an adjacent area of Oxfordshire was at that time.

15 November Changing Health Provision in 19th Century Warwickshire: Our chairman, Dr John Wilmot, shared with us detail from his recent successful PhD thesis in which he considered developments in small towns and rural areas, with a focus on Stratford-upon-Avon and Southam.

Changes in personnel.

Richard Chamberlaine-Brothers, prior to his retirement, compiled the Bibliography published in the *Warwickshire History* for the last 40 years. This Bibliography is also accessible on our website and now comprises 150 pages. Members of the Committee presented him with a bound copy of the Bibliography at Warwickshire County Record Office. Another bound copy was donated to the Record Office.

David Paterson retired from the committee at the AGM due to his increasing involvement with the Historical Association nationally. He remains an active member and provides an important link with Nuneaton.

James Ranahan is standing down as programme Secretary (Lectures). He has maintained our lecture programme during some very difficult times since 2018. We are grateful to him for all his hard work.

Officer and committee vacancies

Treasurer: As yet we have not found a committee member to act as treasurer. Sophie Basi has supported our chairman by 'keeping the books'. We are very grateful to Sophie for the work she has put in to making sure our financial records are maintained correctly

Programme Secretary (Lectures) Jim's retirement means that we need a volunteer for this role. Details are on our website.

Committee Members: We have vacancies for at least two additions to the committee.

Annual Subscriptions: As can be seen from the Accounts we are beginning to make an annual loss albeit at the moment small. Our subscriptions were last increased in 2017. Clearly costs have increased considerably since then. The present rate of inflation will erode our cash. Our membership has remained steady over the last couple of years but it remains to be seen if that continues.

Finally thanks to ...

John Wilmot Chairman

Provision of support to member societies

The thirty local societies and groups affiliated to WLHS receive our journal, while their members can attend our evening lectures free of charge. We also provide support by publicising their events, for instance in the *Bulletin* circulated biannually with the journal (compiled by Mairi Macdonald, 23lochals@ gmail.com). Similar information is included on our website, on the recently enhanced 'other events' page, and in social media posts.

Our increased social media presence has helped us to convey news to members. Rowan Fisher manages our website and Facebook page (outings@warwickshirehistory.org.uk; FaceBook-- Warwickshire Local History Society @historysoc). Jim Ranahan manages our Twitter account; Twitter - @Warwickshistsoc.

John Wilmot (Chairman)

Appendix 1

Minutes of the 55th Annual General Meeting of Warwickshire Local History Society held on 20 April 2021 via Zoom commencing at 7.15pm

In the Chair: Dr John Wilmot.

Sixty- five WLHS members and members of member societies attended.

Apologies: Monica Ory (in hospital)

Chairman's introductory remarks: The chairman referred to the difficulties of the past year which meant no in-person events had taken place – all meetings had been online. This AGM was a month later than in the past due to the change to the constitution passed at last year's AGM which allowed more time for the accounts to be prepared.

Minutes of the 2019 AGM via email (due to the onset of the pandemic) were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Annual Accounts: These were accepted.

Election of officers and Executive Committee Members for 2021/2022

Two long serving members of the committee had retired. Jackie Bland, a former Secretary, had provided much appreciated IT support to the society. Monica Ory had always been a willing volunteer. She served as Vice-Chairman and especially helped with refreshments at meetings.

All the other officers and members were willing to stand for re-election. There were no new proposals and therefore, the officers and committee for 2021/2022 are:

President: Lady Hamilton	Vice-President	Peter Gregory-Hood
Chairman: Dr John Wilmot.	Vice-Chairman:	Dr Bob Bearman.
Secretary: Dr Ruth Barbour.	Treasurer:	Neville Usher.
Hon Editor: Dr Andrew Watkins.	Membership Secretary:	Lesley Caine.
Programme Secretaries:	Rowan Fisher (Visits) and Jim Ranahan (Lectures).	
Executive Committee		

Dr Nat Alcock	Dr. Christine Hodgetts
Dr John Bland	David Paterson
Dr. Maureen Harris	Christine Woodland
Co-opted member: Miss Mairi MacDonald (Editor of 'The Bulletin')	

Any Other Business: None

The meeting closed at 7.29pm