



Newport Pagnell Historical Society

Registered Charity No. 801897
Chandos Hall, Silver Street, MK19 0EN
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NEWSLETTER COVID EDITION FEBRUARY 2021

AGM

Who would have imagined at the last AGM that we were in for such a year? This year's AGM will have to be conducted on line. We realise that this is not ideal but the present limitations, as you are aware, prevents us from meeting as usual. The date for the AGM is 2nd March at 7.30. It will be conducted on Zoom and will be followed by a Local Quiz compiled and presented by Don Hurst.

There are a few changes to be made to the Constitution, a copy of which is attached. These will have to be verified at the AGM. Please take some time to read them and let a Committee member know if you disagree with any of the amendments.

We hope as many as possible will join us and apologise to those who are unable to do so. Roll on next year when things are back to normal and we can be together.

The joining instruction will be sent to you nearer the date.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

We have all missed our twice monthly meetings. A chance to chat with friends, exchange news and memories. The Society's aim has always been to educate the public about the History of Newport Pagnell and the surrounding district. As you all know it is much more. The talks have covered many topics over the years. From Civil war battles, canals, coach travel, nature, even Flanders and Swan. The Committees is determined to carry on with these, as soon as it is permitted. Your Membership fees not only subsidise the meetings, they also pay for the upkeep of the Museum, a valuable asset for the town.

Pat Hurst is our new Membership Secretary, she has asked me inform you that you can return your form electronically, she will ask you to sign a form when meetings start up again.

If you should need any assistance returning your form, please contact Pat on 01908612356 or email nphsmembership@outlook.com

You will find a Membership Form attached.

A WELL TRAVELLED MUSTARD POT

It was found in Gisbourne, New Zealand when my wife's uncle was digging the footings for his house in the 1950s. He later moved to Darwin where their house was destroyed by a cyclone in 1974. The pot survived this plus a further move to Tasmania and he then found it recently in his garage in Brisbane. PETER SEAR



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 2nd March	7.30pm	AGM and local quiz
Tuesday 16th March	7.30pm	Geoff Morris the battle of Northampton

The logging on details to follow.

We will then hopefully be running walks every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month through to September when we will resume talks either inside or by zoom. Lots of walks planned and we will confirm dates and places in next newsletter. Including hopefully a bat walk led by the parks trust on 17th August. **BE**

REVIEWS

Newport Pagnell Town Walk Review

Dec 2020

Don Hurst provided us with an introduction in Silver Street car park, behind Tickford Arcade. This area is the site of a medieval inn called the Bell. We walked in small groups down St Johns Street, taking note of the former Electric Cinema and Bucks Standard offices, the Olde Kiosk, and Queen Anne's Hospital, now alms-houses.

Crossing over Tickford Bridge, we continued along Priory Street towards Tickford Abbey, passing the former National School, and into Milton Drive.

We walked through the play area, and followed the path around the back of the Canons, into Tickford Street, crossing to the swimming pool, and walking towards the car park. A footpath leads into Riverside, where the old bathing area in the River Ouzel/Lovat for the town can be found.

We followed the pathway back to Tickford Bridge. Lucky with the weather yet again! **KD**

The Work of the Parks Trust Online Talk

Jan 2021

Alison Harrell talked to us about the work involved in maintaining the green landscape of Milton Keynes. There are more than 42 landscaped parks, and also linear areas alongside waterways and grid roads where the grass can be left longer to encourage wildlife. Three ancient woodlands remain largely untouched. All this land is owned by the Council, but on a 999-year lease to the Parks Trust, so it is protected. This was set up by the Development Corporation in 1992.

The Parks Trust has 75 employees, 35 contractors, and 200 volunteers. It has investments in MK and also in other parts of the UK, which ensure that it is self-financing. It also fells wood for cricket bats, and sells seasoned firewood.

The Direct Works team deal with the coppicing, pollarding and chipping of the trees. 22 million trees were planted originally, and a lot more survived than expected, so trees do have to be removed from some areas. Ash die back is affecting a big area of Linford Wood.

Sheep and cattle are allowed to graze in some of the parks. This helps to encourage the wildflowers and wildlife.

A very informative talk – the work of the Parks Trust is much appreciated. **KD**

Quizzes

We have run two online quizzes, thanks to Don Hurst our quizmaster. Well done to all those members who joined us, particularly those playing on their own – it was good to 'see' you and we hope you enjoyed yourselves. **KD**

FACEBOOK PAGE

We now have a Facebook page, called Newport Pagnell Historical Society. We are hoping to build on this as another way to keep members and the wider public in touch with what we are doing. Do have a look!!



Snowdrops – the first sign of
spring and a hope for a
brighter year
Take Care and Stay Safe.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM (2021-2022)

**Newport Pagnell Historical
Society**

Registered Charity No. 801897
Chandos Hall, Silver Street, MK190EN

Membership fees payable online bank transfer/cheque/cash. Membership year is **Apr-Mar**.

Junior (0-17)	free	(A fee of £1 is asked at each meeting attended).
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Adults (18+)	£10	(A fee of £1 is asked at each meeting attended).
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Bank details: Lloyds Bank; Sort Code 30-90-91; Account Number 65575360. If paying by online bank transfer, please quote your surname and street name as references. Cheques to be made payable to **Newport Pagnell Historical Society**.

Data protection: by signing this form, you give NPHS permission to supply you with event information and newsletters. The information you provide will be solely used by NPHS.

PLEASE COMPLETE IN FULL IN CAPITAL LETTERS

Title: Forename: Surname:

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone number:

Email address (required for
email newsletter)

Please tick whether you would like your newsletter

By email (free).

Hand delivered (Newport Pagnell only: an extra £2/year per household towards printing).

Posted (an extra £5/year per household to cover printing and postage).

Date: Signed:

Completed forms: send completed forms by email to nphsmembership@outlook.com, or drop in or post to the museum (address in header). Or drop in or post to Barbara Evelyn (Treasurer): 1 Trent Drive. Newport Pagnell. Bucks. MK16 9DB

We are always looking for help to run the society, please indicate if you are willing to help with:

Act as steward at the museum

Help with museum maintenance

Help on town event stalls

Help with walks/speaker meetings/outings

Grow plants for the Spring Fair

Make goods for Christmas Fayre

Other (please state):