

Lemsford Local History Group Meeting 22nd January 2019

Present

Andy Chapman, Marion Cleveland, Mary de Soyres, Carol Hicks, Barbara Taylor, Shirley Knapp, Norman Knapp, Doreen Wright Terry Pankhurst, Stuart Lawson, Margaret Pankhurst, Ruth Jeavons, Patrick McNeill

Apologies

Joan Baraclough, Valerie Richards

The meeting was chaired by Andy who welcomed the members, Wheathampstead History Group and Peter from Ayot History Group.

Peter thanked the group for inviting Ayot to the History Quiz in November 2018.

Ruth from Wheathampstead History Society gave a brief introduction to her role in the Hertfordshire Association for Local History.

Its aim is to promote an interest in, and study of, history in Hertfordshire. Features include:

- A website
- Three events a year: Spring meeting, Summer visit, Symposium
- A list of speakers
- Supporting regional meetings, i.e. the one at Codicote in March 2018 with 9 talks on regional archaeology, sharing their enthusiasms and interests. (Ashwell, Walkern, Shillington, Pirton, Norton, Wheathampstead ...)

She explained that she edits the journal Herts Past & Present and is on the committee. She will bring along some samples of the journal in case anyone's interested.

Patrick McNeill, also from the Wheathampstead History Society, outlined the work and aims of the group.

Matters arising from the previous meetings

No matters were raised.

Welwyn/Lemsford Quiz Night 2018

Andy thanked Marion for the food, Carol for the drinks and Terry for sponsoring the drinks. He also congratulated Liz for fund raising with the raffle and a big thank you to the group for the generous gifts donated and Doreen for all her hard work in helping to bring it together.

Doreen informed the group that after paying for prizes and food we deposited a small profit into our bank account

Herts Hub

Andy informed group he will be attending the meeting in February.

Lemsford Fete display 2019

Andy asked Mary to update the Group about the 'Churchyard Tour'.

Marys reported as follows:

I think we probably need about 20 sites, which we can mark with a laminated coloured A4 sheet on which there is a bold headline - such a CHORISTER FOR 60 YEARS or COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVE for instance, and then a brief bit about the person and with a bit of luck a photograph. We could attach the sheets to bamboo canes which we stick by the grave. Then we could have a loose-leaf file with more details which can be consulted in the Hall. I would suggest that we give guided tours of the churchyards and the files would provide the necessary details for the guides.

We would also need to have a big copy of the plan of the graves in the churchyards so we can direct relatives to graves where there is no headstone. We might even have small bunches of flowers (for a small fee) which the relative could place on the grave.

Allocated graves confirmed:

Shirley: Robert Cochrane, Doreen: Pearts and Munts, Mary : Gordon Franks, Basil Foorde and Alan Deacon, Barbara: Sherriffs, Liz: Mount Stephens, Andy: Brocket Babies and Stan Borrie, Brenda Lines
Marion: Bernard Wallis

The group supported this plan and have allocated an afternoon on March 26th at 2.00pm in the annex to concentrate on the display.

Andy informed group he will investigate QR codes for mobile phones.

AOB

None.

Date for next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on March 19th.

Peter and Valerie offered to give the group a short Walk and Talk around Ayot starting with coffee in the Waggoner's and lunch in the Red Lion. Andy will talk to Peter, Valerie and the pubs and keep the group updated.

Annex meeting March 26th 2.00pm; Barbara to book the hall. Subject: Firm up Fete display.

Conclusion

We ended the meeting with a meal and catch up. Thank you to all our guests attending and hope it added to a very enjoyable meeting.