



# Abingdon Area Archaeological and Historical Society

[www.AAAHS.org.uk](http://www.AAAHS.org.uk)

NEWSLETTER – AUTUMN 2020

## Welcome to ZOOMAAAHsVISION

Dear members, due to the spread of Covid-19, we couldn't resume our meetings at the Northcourt Centre, therefore this year's monthly meetings will be hosted online via Zoom and you can attend them from the comfort of your home. All members will be sent an invitation by email to join the meeting and by clicking the link attached people will be allowed in to view the presentation. If you have any problems with connecting please contact a member of the Committee. We hope you all enjoyed watching the society's first two online talks of this term and we're looking forward to welcoming you virtually for next meetings, don't forget to bring coffee & biscuits!



## November Meetings

### Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November

This LHG meeting has been themed '*Resources for Local History Research*'. As this is an informal meeting there will be no specific speakers and we will encourage all members tuning in to share their knowledge about the topic.

### Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November

#### *Living on the border: The Appleton Area Project – from Iron Age farms to Moated Manors*



We are very pleased to welcome Dr Jane Harrison who will speak about the Appleton Project. All members will receive an invitation with the Zoom link attached the day before and will be admitted from 19:30 for a 19:45 start.

## December Meetings

### Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December

The topic for the LHG meeting will be *Abingdon Christmas Past*. Following the tips given in the November meeting, we would like to ask all members to browse the web, library or even your own photographic collection to find something out about Christmas Past in our locality and share it with the group. Remember to wear your best Christmas Jumper and supply your own minced pies and hot toddy!



### Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December

#### *Canal People*

For the last meeting of 2020, AAAHS member Martin Buckland will give us a fascinating talk describing the 'Canal People'. All members will receive an invitation with the Zoom link attached the day before and will be admitted after 19:30 for a 19:45 start.

## What's new about AAHS online?

There are a couple of new articles recently uploaded by the ABP group on the Council's website:

- *'Abingdon Morris Dancing and the Mayor of Ock Street before 1914'*, by Jonathan Leach, himself an Abingdon Morris Dancer.
- *'The Russian Gun'*, this new article chronicles the descent of an object from being a source of Victorian civic pride to its eventual fate as scrap metal.

Some updates also in the AAHS Website...

Very apt to this time, you may like to read a new article *'Abingdon Epidemics'* by Manfred Brod.

In celebration of the Abingdon Heritage Weekend, the ABP group has put together seven self-guided walks looking at Abingdon's buildings. Visit our website at [aaahs.org.uk](http://aaahs.org.uk) for viewing and downloading the walks.



The society now has a public Facebook Page and a private Facebook Group. Facebook is a platform very much used by the local community and as our face-to-face meetings are temporarily on hold, using Facebook could make it easy for people to be in touch with the society and also to gather new members. Here's the link: <https://www.facebook.com/AAHSSociety/>

AAHS Facebook Group is a bit different. Only AAHS members can be part of it and your posts will be seen only by members of the Society. So, if you are new to Facebook and would like to give it a go, we suggest you to join the group and play in a 'comfort zone'.

## What's On Elsewhere?

All our outings have been cancelled due to the national social restrictions caused by the Coronavirus Pandemic. However, we have beautiful places around Abingdon and in Oxfordshire that are worth a visit in all seasons. Here some safe places you can visit this winter:

- Earth Trust green spaces
- The Arboretum
- The Oxford Botanic Garden

Despite the temporary closure of the cultural sector, several of their events are currently available online, many of them FREE to view! Here a couple of interesting talks to view:

- *'The Archaeology of East Oxford: an exercise in research & public engagement'*. Speakers: David Griffiths, Jane Harrison and Olaf Bayer. Link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-archaeology-of-east-oxford-an-exercise-in-research-public-engagement-tickets-126793070487>
- *'Mystery at the Museum'*, an interactive adventure with Steve Backshall, Oxford University Museum of Natural History. Link: <https://oumnh.web.ox.ac.uk/mystery-at-the-museum>

Also other local societies have resumed their meetings online. Follow this link to know more: <http://www.olha.org.uk/events/talks-and-meetings/>



AAHS  
SUBSCRIPTION  
REMINDER

Thank you for all your support during these difficult times. We would be pleased if you would like to renew your annual subscription with the Society. Please contact our Committee member Hubert Zawadzki for membership information at [Membership@aaahs.org.uk](mailto:Membership@aaahs.org.uk)

### Committee Members

Chairman – John Foreman  
Secretary & Town Planning – Tim Barnett  
Treasurer – Andrew Steele  
Membership – Hubert Zawadzki  
Digging – Jeff Wallis  
Speakers – Michael Bloom  
Archives – Jackie Smith  
Outings – Elizabeth Drury  
Publicity – Valeria Cambule  
AAHS@50 - Roger Thomas and Anne Dodd

If you are able to help the running of this Society by helping with just one of these jobs, or you would like to know more, please contact any member of the Committee through the AAHS website, or email to: [info@aaahs.org.uk](mailto:info@aaahs.org.uk)  
You will be greatly welcomed!

### Newsletter Contributions

We will try to send round the Society's Newsletter each term. We welcome members' contributions so if you have photos, curious stories or book/place reviews that you think other members might be interested in, please send all content by email at [publicity@aaahs.org.uk](mailto:publicity@aaahs.org.uk)

**SEE YOU ON THE BIG SCREEN!**