

Bedfordshire Local History Association
AGM & Annual Conference 2018
Saturday 2 June

Hosted by Clapham Historical Society
at Clapham Village Hall, 118 High Street, Clapham, Bedford MK41 6BS

Conference Programme

09.00 am–09.30 am: **Coffee & Registration**

09.30 am–10.00 am: **BLHA Annual General Meeting**

BLHA Annual Conference

10.00 am–10.10 am: **Introduction:** Mollie Foster (Chair BLHA)
and **Welcome:** Pamela Birch (Bedfordshire Archives Service Manager)

10.15 am–11.00 am: **GIS and its Application to Historical Research:** Des Hoar
We are used to using old maps to help us to interpret and understand historical events. Can we go even further using modern GIS software to create and publish interactive maps which show the results of our current research activities? This approach has been used in a project examining land ownership in a single Bedfordshire parish but we have also discovered its potential to make comparisons across the county or even wider.

11.05 am–11.50 am: **Bedfordshire Heroes:** David Fowler (Chairman Bedford Association of Tour Guides)
Three Local “Heroes”- a talk about Sir Joseph Paxton and the 1851 Exhibition, Fred Burnaby, the Victorian adventurer and John Whitehead, the apple grower at Cockayne Hatley who manufactured Sopwith Pups in WW1.

11.55 am: Your choice of EITHER:

Clapham Church Visit and Village History Talk: John Woods (Local Historian)
A chance to tour the ancient church with its intriguing Norman tower and listen to Mr John Woods, the local historian, talking about the village of Clapham, first settled in the Iron Age. A poor village of 15 houses in medieval times, it survived the conflicts of the Civil war, and remains a village today. Weather permitting, the tower will be open to climb and admire the beautiful views.

OR

11.55 am: **Many Mansions:** Pamela Birch (Bedfordshire Archives Service Manager)
Sir Albert Richardson was a well-known, Bedfordshire based, architect in the first half of the 20th century; the work of his company reflects this with projects of all shapes and sizes throughout the British Isles. During the recent cataloguing by Bedfordshire Archives of the firm’s architectural drawings many treasures have been revealed; this talk discusses some of them.

12.45 pm–2:15 pm: **Hot buffet lunch plus standing displays and stalls**

2.15 pm–3.00 pm: **The Great North Road:** Sue Jarrett (Chair of the Eatons Community Association)

Discover how this important road has helped and hindered the Bedfordshire village and parish of Eaton Socon throughout the centuries.

3.05 pm–3.50 pm: **Amphill's Great Houses:** John Hele (Amphill History Forum)

During the 17th and 18th centuries Amphill had the unusual distinction of having what were tantamount to two stately homes within a stone's throw of each other. The reasons behind this can be traced back to James I and some of his successors and their connections with the town. Needless to say, having such eminent people living so closely, at times lead to frictions especially when it came to matters relating to the church.

Although Amphill has many fine houses the greatest are without doubt Park House and Houghton House. These days Park House is now four private dwellings and Houghton House is a ruin.

3.55 pm–4.25 pm: **Feedback from the Societies:** All

An invitation for informal discussion. All societies are invited to share ideas, promote their events and programmes for the future and discuss ways of encouraging interest. If you would like to be involved, please nominate one of your members who would be prepared to talk at the conference for 5 minutes. Nothing formal, just a friendly chat between local historians.

4.30 pm–5.00 pm: **Closing Summary followed by tea and coffee:** Martin Lawrence (Vice President Bedfordshire Local History Association)

There is full disabled access. Free car park at Clapham Village Hall.

Cost for the day: **£22** including hot buffet lunch and refreshments.
(No charge for those who only wish to attend the AGM)

Please send a completed booking form with payment (cheques payable to Clapham Historical Society) before Saturday 26th May to:

**Mrs M Foster
Clapham Historical Society
Narly Oak, The Baulk, Green Lane,
Clapham, Bedford
MK41 6AA
01234 350353 or
fostermollie07@gmail.com**

**Bedfordshire Local History Association
AGM & Annual Conference 2018, Saturday 2 June
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Booking Form: for Members of Societies

Society name:.....

Please reserve me places for the BLHA Conference on **Saturday 2nd June 2018 at Clapham Village Hall**. Cost for the day, including drinks and lunch, is **£22**
I enclose a cheque for £..... made payable to '**Clapham Historical Society**'.
Please return before Saturday 26th May.

Please note any special dietary requirements (e.g. Vegetarian, Vegan, gluten-free)

Forename	Surname:
Address:	
	Postcode:
Telephone:	
Email:	
Special Dietary Requirements:	

The names of other attendees are: (only 2 from each society may vote at the AGM)

Forename	Surname:
Address:	
	Postcode:
Telephone:	
Email:	
Special Dietary Requirements:	

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Email:	
Special Dietary Requirements:	

Forename	Surname:
Address:	
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Email:	
Special Dietary Requirements:	

I will require no/one/two table(s) for our Society's exhibits/publications (please specify)

We would/would not like to take part in the **Feedback from the Societies**. Our delegate is:

Forename	Surname:
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Booking Form: for Individuals, Corporate Bodies & Members' Guests

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