

# **NORMANDY HISTORIANS**



**The Twenty-Ninth Annual General Meeting  
NORMANDY HISTORIANS  
Will be held in the small hall of  
THE NORMANDY VILLAGE HALL  
At 8pm on Tuesday 21st February 2017**

**Members will receive reports from the Officers**

**Approve the financial statements,**

**Receive the Programme of events for 2017**

**Review the annual subscription rates**

**Elect the Executive Committee**

**Following the AGM, Mike Hughes  
will give a talk**

**"A Risky Business- the Merchant Navy under Fire"**



**AGM**  
**21st February 2017**  
**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- 1. Welcome to Members**
- 2. To determine a quorum for the meeting (25 members)**
- 3. Receive apologies for absence**
- 4. Annual General Meeting – constitutional requirements**
  - a) To adopt minutes of AGM held 16<sup>th</sup> February 2016
  - b) To adopt Secretaries Annual Report 2016
  - c) To adopt the Treasurer's Report for year ended 31 December 2016
  - d) To receive Membership Secretary's Report 2016
  - e) To receive Calendar of Events & Speakers for 2017
  - f) To review Annual Subscription Rates  
The Retiring Executive Committee recommends that the rates for 2017 remain unchanged.
  - g) Elect an Executive Committee  
The Committee proposes the following Officers are re-elected by Members:
    - Christopher Pettitt – Chairman
    - Peter Southwell – Vice Chairman
    - John Squier Membership Secretary
    - Sandra Grainger – Secretary
    - Committee Members – Alice Beech, Ros Clements, Mike Hughes, Peter Southwell & Peter Trevaskis.
- 5. To discuss other pertinent business**
- 6. The 2018 AGM will be held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February**

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We invite **Mike Hughes** to give his talk  
"A Risky Business- the Merchant Navy under Fire"



## MINUTES OF THE 28th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 16th FEBRUARY 2015 AT NORMANDY VILLAGE HALL.

1. The Chairman Christopher Pettitt welcomed 39 members to the meeting.
2. The required number of Members [25] were therefore present to form a quorum.
3. Apologies were received from 1 member.
4. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – CONSTITUTIONAL REQUIREMENTS
  - a) Minutes for the 2016 AGM adopted
  - b) The Chairman submitted his Annual Report previously circulated to Members
  - c) The Treasurer John Squier had prepared a Financial Statement for the year ending 2014 and previously circulated to Members
  - d) Current account £1,388.61
  - e) Savings (Publication) account £41.94
  - f) Financial position at 31st December 2014 is £ £1,430.55
  - g) The Membership Secretary reported that in 2014 Membership was 73 Individuals
  - h) The Calendar of Events and Speakers for 2017 was presented to members
  - i) It was agreed that the Annual Subscription rates for 2017 would remain unchanged
  - j) Elect an Executive Committee
- The Executive Committee nominate Peter Southwell as Vice Chairman, seconded by Christopher Pettitt. John will also take on the role of Membership Secretary.
- The Secretary is retiring after 26 years in office, and the Committee nominate Sandra Grainger as Secretary, seconded by Diana Marchant.
- The Committee proposes that the following Officers are re-elected by Members – Christopher Pettitt (Chairman), John Squier (Vice Chairman, Treasurer & Membership Secretary), Sandra Grainger (Secretary), & Committee Members Alice Beech, Ros Clements, Mike Hughes, Peter Southwell, Peter Travaskis.
- It is also proposed that either one or several Members in turn act as “Master of Ceremonies” at Open Meetings, introducing & thanking the Speaker.
- Members present agreed. There is a vacancy for one Committee member.
5. OTHER BUSINESS
- Members thanked Diana for her work as Secretary over the years.
6. The 2017 AGM will be held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February.

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Alan Chitson of Grainger plc was invited to give a talk on the  
“Redevelopment of Aldershot”

SG 2016



## Chairman's Report 2015

### Secretaries Report 2016

The Normandy Historians continued to have a stable membership of 67 with 4 new members joining during the year. The open meetings have been well attended and I hope enjoyed

There have been a wide variety of speakers and subjects covered. At the last AGM, Alan Chitson of Grainger plc spoke of the re-development of Aldershot and the “formation” of a complete “new town – Wellesley” where many of the army barracks and MOD homes once stood. He spoke of how the Cambridge Military Hospital, a listed building, was being converted into apartments whilst retaining the external facade.

In March, we stayed with Aldershot when Murray Rowlands told of the role Aldershot played during WW1, followed in April with David Rose spoke of Guildford’s role in the same conflict.

In May, we “left the past” and enjoyed Paul O’Brien, one of our members, speaking about the “Normandy Earth Station”, a series of huge satellite dishes in Cobbett Hill which stream television programmes from all over the World to be seen in the UK, an example being the Olympic Games from Rio.

We did not have a summer outing, so our programme resumed in September when David Nodder, a Pirbright resident and Secretary of the John Betjeman Society came to talk about the poet and his works.

We owe a big thank you to our member, Professor Jim Grimshaw who stepped in at the last minute to give a most interesting talk on Lord Pirbright. Our scheduled speaker Peter Durrant was taken ill and hospitalised just one week before the meeting.

In November, Brian Freeland entertained us with tales of his work as a Stage Manager. There were many amusing anecdotes as well as meeting and working with famous celebrities, he also worked in amateur theatrical productions.

Our Christmas Social was, I hope, enjoyed by all. Peter Southwell acted as Chairman and also prepared an excellent quiz. Our thanks go to Peter for all his hard work to make the Social a success. Thank you also to our members bought a wonderful array of delicious food for us all to enjoy.

I hope you will find in 2017 Normandy Historians have a programme of interesting and varied topics.

Sandra Grainger  
2017



# NORMANDY HISTORIANS

## NORMANDY HISTORIANS - FINANCIAL STATEMENT for 2016

### Current account

Opening Balance at 1st of January

### £ Savings (Publication) account

£1,916.71 Opening Balance £41.94  
at 1st of January

### **Income**

Members prepaid last year	0	£0.00	Interest received	£0.00
Membership subscriptions - individuals @ £5	67	£335.00		£0.00
Memberships prepaid for next year	0	£0.00		
Meeting income (see separate sheet)		£86.44	Balance at 31st December	£41.94
No summer outing	0	£0.00		
Century of Normandy CDs sold @ £7.50	2	£15.00		
Normandy Park books sold @ £9.50	0	£0.00		
Henley Park books sold @ £10	6	£60.00		
Postage and packing received		£12.36		
Donations received		£0.00		
		£0.00		
Total income:		£508.80		

### **Expenditure**

Postage and packing for books	£2.85
Bank charge for international payment	£0.00
Paypal fees for memberships, book & CD sales	£2.61
Deposit for Village Hall key	£0.00
Meeting expenditure (see separate sheet)	£353.92
Outings and Exhibitions expense	£0.00
6 Century of Normandy CDs	£18.35
	£0.00
Total expenditure:	£377.73

Net increase:

£131.07 **Financial position at 31st December 2016**

Balance at 31st December:

£2,047.78 Current account £2,047.78  
+ Publication account £41.94

Total = £2,089.72

### **The Society's Bankers are**

Lloyd's TSB plc, 115 Victoria Road, Aldershot, Hants. GU11 1JR

## NORMANDY HISTORIANS - Open Meeting cost breakdown for 2016

Income	Total Inc.	Expenses	Total Exp.	Net meeting cost
<u>2014 December social evening</u>		n/a	£0.00	
<u>Jan (no meeting)</u>		£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Jan - teas	£0.00	Laminated posters & postage	£6.92	
Jan - visitors @ £1.50	0	Jan - village hall	£0.00	
<u>Feb 16: AGM</u>		Jan - speaker	£0.00	£6.92
Feb AGM - teas	£3.49	February	£0.00	
Feb AGM - visitors @ £1.50	0	Feb AGM - village hall	£24.00	
<u>March 15: Aldershot in WW1</u>		Feb AGM - speaker	£0.00	£24.00
March - teas	£5.60	March	£0.00	
March - visitors @ £1.50	1	March - village hall	£24.00	
<u>April 19: Guildford in WW1</u>		March - speaker	£30.00	£54.00
April - teas	£12.18	April	£0.00	
April - visitors @ £1.50	4	April - village hall	£24.00	
<u>May 17: Normandy Earth Station</u>		April - speaker	£50.00	£74.00
May - teas	£1.44	May	£0.00	
May - visitors @ £1.50	1	May - village hall	£24.00	
<u>June-Aug (no meeting)</u>		May - speaker	£0.00	£24.00
<u>Sept 20: John Betjeman</u>		June-Aug (no meeting)	£0.00	
Sept - teas	£5.13	£0.00	£0.00	
Sept - visitors @ £1.50	£1.50	Sept - village hall	£24.00	
<u>Oct 18: Lord Pirbright</u>		Sept - speaker	£0.00	£24.00
Oct - teas (see Nov)	£0.00	October	£0.00	
Oct - visitors @ £1.50	0	Oct - village hall	£24.00	
<u>Nov 15: A look at the Theatre</u>		Oct - speaker	£0.00	£24.00
Nov - teas	£7.60	November	£0.00	
Nov - visitors @ £1.50	1	Nov - village hall	£24.00	
<u>Dec 13: Social evening</u>		Nov - speaker	£75.00	£99.00
Total	£0.00	Dec Social evening - village hall	£24.00	
		£0.00	£0.00	
		Meetings - admin, tea & coffee expenses	£0.00	£24.00
<b>Total meeting income:</b>	<b>£47.44</b>	<b>Total meeting expenditure:</b>	<b>£353.92</b>	<b>Net meeting expense:</b> <b>£306.48</b>



# About Normandy Historians

Early in 1987, the Normandy Parish Council expressed its deep concern that knowledge and memories of past village life would be irretrievably lost with the demise of elderly residents, known to have been born in the locality or to have lived the best part of their life in Normandy.

The Chairman and Clerk of the Council, therefore, invited a small group of residents, keen to form a Local History Group, to a private meeting on 23 February 1987 to consider how best to alleviate the concern of the Council.

The group proposed that a Society be formed to record initially the last 100 years of social and cultural living within the village and to launch the project and its objects at a Special Parish Meeting convened for that purpose.

The meeting, attended by about 150 parishioners, was held in the Normandy Village Hall on 18 May 1987. It unanimously determined that a society be formed (suggested title NORMANDY HISTORIANS) with terms of reference "to record and publish the last 100 years history of Normandy in a form acceptable to the Parish Council and for the Council, within reasonable terms, to assist financially in the project".

The inaugural meeting of the Society was held 14 July 1987 when Bill Adey was elected Chairman together with an effective management team elected from the 30 persons present. The first Executive Committee meeting was held 23 September 1987. A formal Constitution was adopted at the Annual General Meeting held 11 October 1989.

The logo of the Society, now affectionately known as "Norman", was used during 1991 in the preparation work for the Wanborough Station Centenary Celebration held in September of that year. Although never officially adopted, "Norman", a much-admired addition to the title of the Society's on its letter heading and literature has remained ever since. He is, of course, a caricature of a warrior, holding his shield of defence in what is normally considered to be the fighting hand, and dressing (a military term) to the left, which again is contrary to normal military drill! He is, however, symbolic of all Local Study Groups, in that he is the Defender of the past and Herald of the future.





## Publications

### **Henley Park in Surrey The History of a Royal Manor**

Henley Park in Surrey Henley Park's long history spans over a thousand years from Saxon settlement through royal ownership and more than one stately mansion to a wartime factory and its last-minute rescue from ruin and collapse. New research has revealed the much-debated location of the medieval royal complex as well as a long-forgotten Jacobean-style mansion that predates the Georgian-style mansion that we know today. This history is described in a readable and informative style in our new publication: *Henley Park in Surrey, the History of a Royal Manor*, by John Squier.

John is an amateur historian who has lived in Normandy for 38 years and was a founder member of Normandy Historians. He has spent many years researching Henley Park since he discovered that his house was briefly part of its extensive estates.

An updated history of Henley Park has long been overdue and with nearly 200 pages of text and 123 illustrations, many in colour, we believe that this is a book worthy of the long and fascinating history of Normandy's most prestigious estate.

Available from Normandy Historians at only £10 plus p&p (£6.50 UK) or at our meetings.

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### **A History of Normandy Park in Surrey**

*A History of Normandy Park in Surrey* is presented as an attractive, glossy soft-back book with cover photo, composed of 114 pages of text, 25 figures and 63 black & white photos featuring Normandy Park house, neighbouring houses and the people who helped to shape that area of Normandy including the author's family.

Jack Kinder, the author demonstrates a unique and succinct style of writing, which coupled with his skill as a draughtsman, so ably demonstrated in the copious figures in the book, will not disappoint the reader.

Notwithstanding the excellence of his work, *A History of Normandy Park in Surrey* is a veritable tome of reference for family history researchers and for those who have an interest in the transformation and development of a village as its large fruit farms and nurseries disappeared from the rural scene in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries.

Available from Normandy Historians at only £9.50 plus p&p (£3.50 UK) or at our meetings.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2017

**Tuesday 21st February**

**AGM**

Mike Hughes

"A Risky Business –

The Merchant Navy Under Fire"

**Tuesday 21st March**

David Swabey

"Jacob Sheep of Normandy & Beyond"

**Tuesday 18th April**

To Be Arranged

**Tuesday 16th May**

Murray Rowlands

"Sir Harold Gillies"

**Tuesday 19th September**

Geoff Burch & David Rose

"Dave Salmon A Man and His Camera"

**Tuesday 17th October**

Peter Durrant

"History & Humour of Fleet Street"

**Tuesday 21st November**

Rupert Matthews

"Father Christmas"

**Tuesday 12th December**

"Social evening for Members"



## MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT TO 2016 AGM

Membership at 71 December 2016

71 Paid up Members in 2016 with 4 new members

KATHLEEN ATKINS  
LIZ ATKINS  
ALICE BEECH  
URSULA BEECH  
PETER BLAKISTON  
AUDREY BLAKISTON  
ROBERT BOWGEN  
STEPHANIE BOXALL  
DEREK BUCKLE  
MAIDIE CHATTAWAY  
RICHARD CHILD  
AUDREY CHISNALL  
JIM CHISNALL  
ROS CLEMENTS  
BRENDA COLLINS  
STEVE CRANSTONE  
HEATHER EDGINGTON  
SHIRLEY FORSTER  
JOAN FOSTER  
JONATHAN FOSTER  
DAVID FRANKLIN  
JOHN FRANKS  
BRIAN GRAINGER  
SANDRA GRAINGER  
JAMES GRIMSHAW\*  
GRAHAM HALL  
SALLY HELM  
STEVEN HILL\*  
ASHLEY HOARE  
JANET HOWARD  
MIKE HUGHES  
JENNY HUGHES  
ERIC KING  
KELVIN KNOWLES  
JACKIE LENTHALL

KEN LENTHALL  
DIANA LOCKYER-NIBBS  
DIANA MARCHANT  
KENNETH MARCHANT  
STEPHEN MATTHEWS\*  
PAMELA McKINNON  
ALAN NORRIS  
EIRA NURSAW  
JAMES NURSAW  
BRIAN OLIVER  
ELIZABETH OLIVER  
CHRISTOPHER PETTITT  
FRANK PHILLIPSON  
DAVID PIPER  
NIGEL RICHARDSON  
JOHN SEWRY\*  
CLARE SHERWOOD  
JOHN SHERWOOD  
JOHN SHORT  
PAT SHORT  
PETER SOUTHWELL  
JOHN SQUIER  
SHEILA SQUIER  
DAVID SWABEY  
CHRIS TALBOT  
PAMELA TALBOT  
MONICA TAYLOR  
CAROLE THOMAS  
MARTIN THOMAS  
PETER TREVASKIS  
BILL TURNILL  
MARY TURNILL  
JUNE URIBE  
ROGER URIBE  
PETER WELLS  
CHRISTINE WILKS

\* = New member



Welcome to NORMANDY in Surrey

## Normandy Historians

The website homepage features a header with the text "Welcome to NORMANDY in Surrey" and the "Normandy Historians" logo. Below the header are two historical images: "Wankborough Brickworks" and "Normandy Park". Each image has a "Click Here" button. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column contains a box for "St. Mark's, Wyke" with details about baptism, marriage, and burial registers from 1847 to 1998, and a "Click Here" button. The right column contains a box for "Library" with a list of downloadable resources and a "Click Here" button. At the bottom is a section titled "Normandy in the Press" with a thumbnail image of a newspaper clipping and a "Click Here" button.

The Normandy Historians website now has over 550 pages, That's:-

1505 html files

6879 images files

216 pdf files

47 Excel files

5 rtf files

480 other

(Disk Space Used 559 MB) (this is about 56% of Allocation\*)

In December 2016 we had:-

Total Hits 62458 - (2014 per Day)

Total Files 50118

Total Pages 17483

Total Visits 7053 - (227 per Day)

Total KBytes 2692346

(at about 1.37 GB this is 15% of Allocation\*)

Allocated 10 GB Bandwidth per month

Allocated 1 GB Web space



**The visits to the website is about same over the year as last year.**

**\* Note the Allocations have gone up by 100% this year.**