

NORMANDY HISTORIANS

**The Thirty-Sixth Annual General Meeting
will be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 21st April 2026
in the small hall of Normandy Village Hall**

AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Apologies for absence
3. To adopt the minutes of the AGM held on 20th February 2025
4. To receive / adopt the 2025 Report and Accounts
5. Committee for 2026
6. Any Other Business
7. Date of next AGM:

**Historians are holding a special AGM at Normandy Village Hall
when there will be presentations on the history of the village
and the history of Normandy Historians.**

The committee are planning this evening will be a celebration of all that the Historians have achieved since we were founded in 1987.

COMMITTEE (as at December 2025)

Chairperson: Peter Southwell
Secretary: Peter Southwell
Treasurer: John Squier (*also Membership Secretary*)
Members: Alan Norris, Robert Bodin

The future of the Historians depends on new committee members.
Please contact a committee member (or e-mail below) if you are able to contribute to the running of the society.

Website: www.normandyhistorians.co.uk
Enquiries: info@normandyhistorians.co.uk



COMMITTEE REPORT FOR OUR 2026 AGM

In March a member of the Historians committee, Alan Norris, gave a presentation on the history of Emmanuel Church on the occasion of the 200th anniversary of the church. This meeting was held at the Emmanuel Church and was well attended by members of the church and by some Normandy Historians.

Prominent Historians who passed away in 2025 included James Nursaw and Peter Trevaskis. Peter was on our committee for many years and greeted members attending our meetings. Peter very kindly left a bequest of £2,000 to the Historians in his will and this will be received when Peter's house is sold. This will ensure the financial security of the Historians for many years.

For several years the Historians Committee has been appealing for additional members to join them to maintain the organisation of the Historians. Unfortunately these appeals have had limited success and the existing committee has very reluctantly decided that it no longer has the resources to organise a programme of open meetings. When not offering a programme of meetings the committee will cease asking for a membership fee, "friends of the Historians" will continue to be inform of our activities (except where a friend tells us they no longer wish to receive any updates).

From 2026 the purposes of the Historians will be limited to:

To research the history of the village *

Maintain and add to the Historians records held on our website

Responding to requests for information about the history of the village from within the UK and overseas

(A recent addition to our records is on the so called Wanborough Hoard, which was found on the boundary between Wanborough and Normandy. We are also working on adding records of the Normandy Amateur Dramatic Society to our website).*

Committee for 2026:

Peter Southwell	Chairperson
John Squier	Treasurer
Alan Norris	Lay Member
Robert Bodin	Lay Member
Ashley Hoare	Website Manager

The Committee does not intend to debate the above or put the above to a vote at AGM as the Committee is unaware of any alternative proposal to take the Historians forward. If there is anyone who wishes to join the committee and put forward another direction for the Historians please state this at the meeting and the AGM may need to be reconvened at a later date.

The report of our 2025 AGM is available on Page 3

Please see our Treasurer's report on page 4



NORMANDY HISTORIANS MINUTES OF THE 35th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held on Tuesday 18th February 2025 at 8.00pm at Normandy Village Hall

1. The Chairperson, Peter Southwell welcomed 20 members and 3 guests, plus our speaker (DR), to the meeting.
2. Apologies for absence received from John Squier and Peter Trevaskis. Peter is in Haslemere Hospital and we wish him a speedy recovery to full health.
3. The Minutes of the 2024 Annual General Meeting (included in the Annual Report document) were adopted.
4. The Annual Report / Accounts for 2024 were previously circulated to Members by e mail. The Report was taken as read and was adopted by members with no questions.
5. The Accounts showed a total account balance at end of 2024 of £1,932.20. The Accounts were adopted with no questions.
6. Future of open meetings. Regrettably the existing committee does not have sufficient resources to arrange a programme of open meetings for 2026, so as it stands this year's programme of meetings will be the last. The existing committee proposes that from 2026 onwards Historians activities will be limited to researching and documenting the history of the village, maintaining our website, and responding to enquiries from the public about the history of the village. This meeting commences a consultation on this proposal which will end on at the beginning of April when a final decision will be made on the future activities of the Historians.
7. Election of Executive Committee.

The existing committee were prepared to continue in the following positions:

Peter Southwell – Chairperson and Secretary

John Squier – Treasurer (and Membership Secretary)

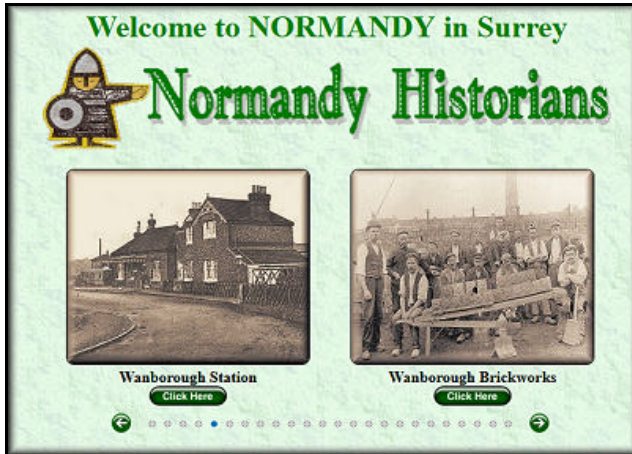
Committee Members – Alan Norris, Peter Trevaskis, Robert Bodin.

No one else was proposed to join the committee.

8. Any Other Business - Members were reminded of the invitation to attend a celebration of 200 years of the non conformist church in Normandy on Friday 28th March at Emmanuel Church, Glaziers Lane, Normandy. All members are invited.
9. The 36th AGM will be held on Tuesday 17th February 2026.

(Updated to Tuesday 21st April 2026)

The AGM concluded at c. 8.10pm.



www.normandyhistorians.co.uk

The Normandy Historians website now has over 750 pages, That's:-

- 1792 html files
- 7729 images files
- 231 pdf files
- 45 Excel files
- 5 rtf files
- 284 other

(Disk Space Used 762.2 MB) (this is about 76.22% of Allocation*)

In **February 2026** we had:-

- Total Hits 174306 - **(6,501 per Day)**
- Total Files 126521
- Total Pages 58924
- Total Visits 30462 - **(1,088 per Day)**
- Total KBytes 9146652

(at about 8.84 GB this is 61% of Allocation)

Allocated 15 GB Bandwidth per month (*note: 5 GB added*)

Allocated 1 GB Web space



The number of visits to the website has gone up by over 50% over the year with the members' part of the site being opened up back in January.

Also in February the Normandy book was download 783 times

And the Westwood book was download 190 times.

We also have 56 Friends of Normandy Historians as of March 2026



A History of 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.

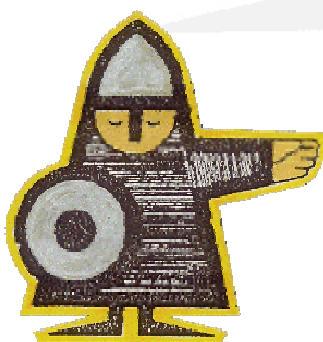
The Chairman and Clerk of the Council, therefore, invited a small group of residents, keen to form a Local History Group, to a private meeting on 23rd February 1987 to consider how best to alleviate the concern of the Council.

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

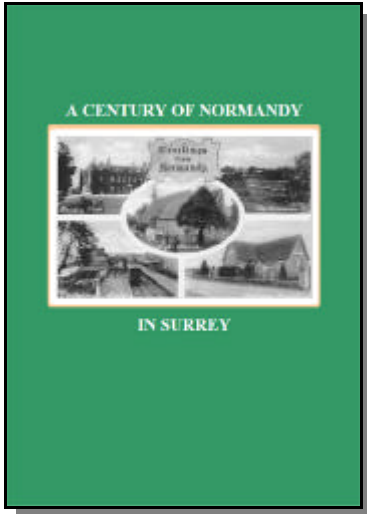
The logo of the Society, now affectionately known as “Norman”, was used during 1991 in the preparation work for the Wanborough Station Centenary



Celebration held in September of that year. Although never officially adopted, “Norman”, a much admired addition to the title of the Society 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.



FREE on our Website



A Century of Normandy in Surrey by Normandy Historians

Our book that was published in 2000 is now available to download from our website for **Free** as a PDF file.
(this has been updated to "errata 18")

Just go to our home page and click Book Library, then the book.

Also available

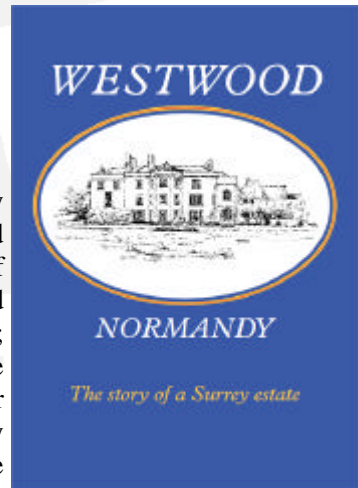
Westwood, Normandy The story of a Surrey Estate By Pat Ashworth and Jack Kinder

Meticulously researched from papers held by the Coussmaker family and other records held by public bodies, the book traces the history of Westwood from early days. The growth and subsequent decline of the estate are chronicled; also the lives of the various members of the Coussmaker family who held Westwood for over two centuries and the contribution they made to the local community, in particular the founding of the church of St Mark, Wyke. The story is brought up to 1998 and describes the changes which have taken place since the sale of the estate and the house and their effect on Normandy.

140 pages with 27 line drawings and 34 photographs.

By kind permission of the publishers, Westwood Place Management Ltd.

This can also be download **Free** from our website

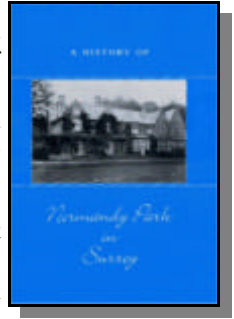




A History of Normandy Park in Surrey

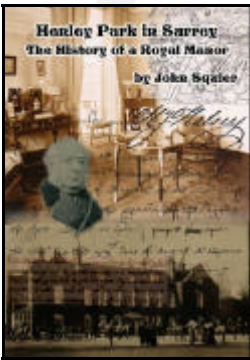
A History of Normandy Park in Surrey is presented as an attractive, glossy soft-back book with cover photo, composed of 114 pages of text, 25 figures and 63 black & white photos featuring Normandy Park house, neighbouring houses and the people who helped to shape that area of Normandy including the author's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

A History of Normandy Park only **£9.50** plus £3.50 postage



Henley Park in Surrey The History of a Royal Manor

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.

Henley Park in Surrey - Just **£10.00** plus £4.00 postage