

Longworth & District History Society Report for Annual Meeting 2017-2018

- Our annual membership for 2017 was 75
- 8 meetings were held inhouse at Southmoor Village Hall
- Additionally, there were 3 walks held in the summer months.
- Attendance was consistently good, with more than 50 at each meeting.

Talks and walks included:

- Buscot House and the man who had it built, Edward Loveden.
- Salter Steamers, the family who started SS and how the business developed.
- Professors of Rowing, the history of the Oxford Cambridge Boat Race.
- History of Penicillin, connection with Oxford University
- The Invisible Brick, tracing the history of the brick in architecture and literature.
- Guided Walks were in Henley on Thames, Wallingford and the ramparts of the old town.
- Lastly, we had a walk from Longworth to Newbridge guided by Peter Keene, who told us of the geology and history of the area.

Archives

- We put on an exhibition of all our archives. Thanks to Pam Woodward, for helping get them in order to be exhibited. It was good to see them being used as they live in a locked cupboard in Southmoor Village Hall.
- We continue to try and put names to faces and places in our photo archive.
- We have had an interesting correspondence with a lady in America who grew up at the Hush Hush Factory at Tubney telling of her days in Tubney woods and school, firstly in Appleton then Botley.
- With the changes in the existing buildings in the villages we are grateful for old photos which have been lent to us to copy for our archive.

Equipment

- It was felt that The Society should have its own overhead projector which was purchased to enable our speakers with their presentations.

Moving forwards

- We have started another year 2018 with a similar format of well attended talks and walks and are keen to hear from locals regarding future talks, archive material and articles for our inhouse magazine "The Longworth Rose".
- Our challenge is to expand our membership by continuing to offer an interesting cross section of Local History, especially with the increase in new members to the area.

Martin Eagle and Kathy Fletcher