

Sawbridgeworth U3A Local History Group

Meeting on Thursday

30 June 2016 100-1130

at The Council Chambers, Bell Street

Present: Theo van de Bilt; Chris Catling; Lorraine Carlaw; Hilary Matthews, Hazel and David Mead, Gill Munro, Edna Richardson, Terry and David Royle

MINUTES

1	Apologies for Absence: None	Action
2	Presentation by Theo van de Bilt (TVB) on favourite websites: Ancestry (best); HALS; Dusty docs (free); Find my Past (2 nd best); Forces War Records; British Newspaper Archive (British Library); Herts Family History Society; Herts Association for Local History; Herts Record Society; Genealogy in Herts; Herts Past; Rhodes Museum; Stortford History; East Herts Archaeological Society; Eastwick and Gilston (John Clarke).	TVB
3	<p>Research projects update (TVB to act as facilitator)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WW2 war memorial (Hazel Mead and Terry Royle): good progress on most names • Police and crime (Gill Munro); HALS police notebook has been digitised; need to collaborate with Herts Memories and Herts Past Policing (TVB/GM) • May Fayre protest letter: GM has transcribed most of it; DR noted that the Town Council are planning to buy back the manorial rights and with them the ability to hold a market in September! • Personalities e.g. Barnard (Hilary Matthews); HM has been looking at censuses and to the maps to identify occupations and residences • Oral history of growth of Sawbridgeworth etc. (Chris Catling); CC has visited Rhodes; some complexities about copyright ownerships and consent; we could use Rhodes dedicated recording room and equipment; we should explore collaboration with Rhodes, Herts Memories; Shared Heritage 2016-26 project • Pubs past and present (Dave Mead, David Royle); DM getting information from Wally Wright on previous pubs • Links with local schools; local (history) walks (restore Millennium boards) (David Royle); schools do local history topics and have done history walks but we don't yet know who with! F&B has an annual Y3 Street Detectives project where pupils do a history walk and build a model of the town with their vision for it. The Council is discussing a Sustainable Journeys project with local schools which includes a walk (or non-drive) to school week at the end of September, followed by a town event including a 'history' quiz on 1 October. There is therefore an opportunity to reinstate the town walk and information boards plus leaflet. We might also involve the Hailey Centre and/or U3A camera clubs in taking photographs of 'the history' of Sawbridgeworth. Rotary produced a quiz for Stort Walk day on 25 June. 	<p>HMea -TR</p> <p>GM/TVB</p> <p>GM</p> <p>HMat</p> <p>CC</p> <p>DM – DR</p> <p>DR</p>
5	Dates and times of future meetings (all at 1000-1130 in Council Chamber) last Thursday of each month: 28 July; 25 August; 29 September; 27 October; 24 November; 30 December	
6	Any other business: TVB reported that the HALS map of Sawbridgeworth/High Wych could be digitised in four parts at a cost of £38; we need to collaborate with Rhodes, Herts Memories and HALS on developing a website/place to post and share our research (TVB/DM/DR to follow up); we could use the Sawbridgeworth library for research meetings and share access to e.g. Ancestry website; we should investigate 'republishing' the Observer articles written by Kenny Cook; DR can provide editorial support when needed; a grant for STC is available once we have a specific need; we may need a Treasurer and to contribute into a kitty to buy e.g. subscriptions to Find My Past and War Records; Hatfield Heath history group has a list of publications; we should share project progress etc. by email as we are the core group.	
7	Date of next meeting: Thursday 28 July 1000 Council Chamber	