

HEXHAM LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

**Agenda**  
**50th Annual General Meeting 2018**  
**13th November 2018 at 7.30pm in Trinity Methodist Church Hall**

1. Welcome
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2017 (see below)
4. Matters arising
5. Secretary's report (see below)
6. Treasurer's report (see below)
7. Election of Officers and Committees (see nominations below)
8. Chairman's Remarks
9. Any other business

*Following the AGM there will be a talk by Dr Peter Wright "Water Trades on the Tyne in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Centuries".*

Yvonne Purdy (Secretary)

The AGM papers had been circulated prior to this evening's meeting.

**Minutes of the 49th Annual General Meeting held in Trinity Methodist Church Hall**  
**at 7.30pm on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

Chaired by PETER RODGER

1. **Welcome:** Peter Rodger opened the meeting and welcomed everyone here tonight.
2. **Apologies for absence:** John Holland.
3. **Minutes of last Annual General Meeting** on 15 November 2016 were accepted as a true record.
4. **Matters Arising:** None.
5. **Secretary's Report:** This had been circulated with the notice of the meeting and was accepted.
6. **Treasurer's Report:** This had also been circulated with the notice of the meeting and was accepted.
7. **Election of Officers and Committee:** The following were elected unopposed:  
Peter Rodger, Chairman  
Terry Eccles, Publications distribution and sales;  
Greg Finch, Treasurer;  
Yvonne Purdy, Secretary & Membership Secretary;  
Liz Sobell, Speakers programme;  
Jennifer Britton, Visits programme  
Mark Benjamin, Chairman of the Publications committee and Editor of Hexham Historian and Newsletter.  
Ian Hancock, Vice Chairman  
Christine Hanley  
Mark Runnacles-Goodridge, Social Media.  
David Wilkinson, Co-opted member  
Pete Lee, Website

8. **Chairman's Remarks:** Peter Rodger addressed the meeting, saying that this last year had been a good year for the Society. We had produced a book for the Abbey, "Hexham Abbey Revealed", which was selling well.
9. **Any Other Business:** There was no other business.

*The A.G.M. closed at 7.35 p.m. and was followed with a talk by Professor Peter Lee "Overseas Trade on the Tyne in 1676.*

### **Nominations for posts of retiring Officers & committee membership**

Proposed Committee membership 2019:

Chairman – Greg Finch  
Vice Chairman - Ian Hancock  
Secretary - Yvonne Purdy  
Treasurer – James Smith  
Publications Officer- Terry Eccles  
Programme - Liz Sobell  
Outings - Jennifer Britton  
Editor - Mark Benjamin  
Webmaster – Pete Lee  
Christine Hanley  
David Wilkinson

### **Committee recommendations to the AGM**

- 1) Subscription fees (as required under Article 6.4 v) of the constitution)  
"That there will be no change in 2019 to the level of subscriptions set for 2018"
- 2) Nomination of Auditor (as required under Article 6.4 iv) of the constitution)  
"That Howard Forrest be nominated to audit the Society accounts for 2018"

## **Secretary's Report for 2017**

**Membership:** The Society had successfully maintained excellent numbers of members in 2017 which, at the end of the year, totalled almost 300. There had been a consistently good turnout of members who enjoyed our monthly meetings.

**Programme:** Liz Sobell had organised an excellent and varied programme of speakers covering different aspects of Local History. The year was started by Dr Greg Finch – Sharp, Hapless & Fraudulent – NE Business in the 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. February's talk was given by Yvonne Young – The Grainger Market, Newcastle, followed in March by Paul Frodsham – North Pennines Archaeology, Recent Discoveries. April saw Reverend Dr Michael Jackson – The Building of Durham Cathedral. The Tom Corfe Memorial Lecture in May was given by Alistair Fraser – Ushaw College Library Project. September's talk was given by Brian Tilley – Tynedale in the Great War, followed in October by Professor Jeremy Boulton – The Maddison Monument: Faith, failure, fertility and death in 17<sup>th</sup> century Newcastle. Professor Pete Lee ended the year in November, after the AGM, with Overseas Trade on the Tyne in 1676.

**Outings:** Jennifer Britton had again organised three excellent outings, which were very well supported, and greatly enjoyed. In May there was a Tuesday afternoon visit to Northumberland Archives 'behind the scenes'. In June there was a Tuesday evening visit, and guided tour: Secrets of Hexham Abbey House with Peter Ryder, followed by an excellent supper, and in July a Saturday whole day visit to Lanercost Priory and Brampton Church (including lunch at Dacre Hall, Lanercost). The rain couldn't dampen the enjoyment of this last outing.

**Newsletters:** In 2017, the Society's three Newsletters, compiled and published by Mark Benjamin, included a fascinating mix of news, reviews, requests for information and articles. Many thanks to our increasing number of members who now choose the option of receiving Newsletters by email.

**Publications:** The 51<sup>th</sup> issue of Hexham Historian, No. 27, was produced by Publications Editor Mark Benjamin, and continued to maintain the high standard of excellent and varied articles. The Committee continue to plan publications for the future.

**Sales:** This year, Terry Eccles has overseen regular sales not only from online sources, but also from a number of events at which the Society has been represented.

**Internet:** The migration to the new website has not yet been completed, and work is ongoing with a redesign of the site by 2BGraphics. Mark Runnacles Goodridge has successfully maintained a popular Facebook presence for the Society which has now a substantial number of followers.

**Committee:** The Committee met four times in 2017.

Yvonne Purdy

## Treasurer's Report for 2017

### HEXHAM LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE – YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

	INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
	2016 £	2017 £	2016 £	2017 £
Membership	3,007.06	2,984.28	Society Administration	24.37
Subscriptions	2,555.00	2,533.00	Membership	13.08
Gift Aid	452.06	451.28	Committee	11.29
Number of Members	301	290	Programme/newsletter production/printing	989.15
Visitors	114.00	116.00	Distribution	586.00
Donations	88.25	227.42	Meetings	403.15
Grants	500.00	-	Facilities	1,054.45
Miscellaneous	135.00	200.00	Speakers	496.47
Outings	982.00	1,370.10	Society Subscriptions	557.98
Publications	967.07	2,458.27	Outings	65.00
Sales	577.07	1,903.27	Publications	942.00
Adverts	390.00	555.00	Authorship/licences	924.96
Interest	179.07	66.46	Editorial Administration	3.30
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>5,972.45</b>	<b>7,422.53</b>	Printing	36.90
<b>Net surplus/ deficit</b>	<b>586.16</b>	<b>-2,422.82</b>	Distribution	840.62
	2016	2017	Marketing/ publicity	-
			Sales Administration	42.00
			Website/ gen. publicity	2.14
			Grants and awards	48.60
			Bank Charges/Interest	1,337.76
			<b>Total Expenditure</b>	-
				<b>5,386.29</b>
				<b>9,845.35</b>

Balance	01-Jan-17	01-Jan-18
Bank - Current a/c	135.63	123.62
Bank - Deposit a/c	2.82	2.82
Skipton BS - savings	15,200.00	12,766.46
Paypal account	31.03	43.76
Petty Cash	25.00	35.00
Balance 1 Jan 2017	<u>15,394.48</u>	
Profit/(loss) for 2017	- 2,422.82	
Balance 1 Jan 2018	<u>12,971.66</u>	<u>12,971.66</u>

Audited and found correct

Hon Auditors

As forecast in last year's report, work on the Society's new website and membership admin system by 2BGraphics of Stocksfield commenced in 2017, shown in the accounts above as expenditure in those two categories, adding up to just short of £4,000 in total. The project is expected to be completed in 2018, when a further loss can be expected. Without this exceptional item the actual loss of £2,422 would have been a surplus of around £1,500 instead.

This owes a great deal to receipts from our two occasional publications of 2017, *Hexham Abbey Revealed* and *Two Gentleman Photographers*, which have proved highly popular and quickly covered their production costs. Total publication income was nearly £600 higher than printing and other related costs. Subscription income was slightly lower than in 2016, but this was outweighed by the miscellaneous receipt of £200 obtained from our bank in compensation for committee time incurred by their administrative errors.

Equipment was purchased to support our project to digitise old photos and slides, which spent our £500 grant received in 2016. A further £88 was spent from the 2015 award of £1,000 to Dukesfield Documents. Once again we were able to keep tight control on administrative spending and postal costs, in no small part due to our *Hexham Historian* 'hand distributors', to whom we are grateful, and to the increasing number of you who choose to receive the newsletter in digital form. Our balances remain very healthy, allowing us to continue to support our own research, publication and grant making in the future.

My thanks go to Dr Howard Forrest for checking the accounts this year.

Greg Finch