



Welcome to the 2022 Spring Newsletter

Included are details of the 2022 AGM and reports from the officers, the upcoming excursion programme and Oxfordshire Past 2022.

Contents

2022 AGM Agenda.....	2
2021 AGM Minutes.....	2
Officers reports	4
Annual Accounts	9
Excursion Programme	12
Oxfordshire Past 2022	15



AGM @ OxPast

All members are very welcome to attend the AGM, which will be held as part of Oxfordshire Past on Saturday 9th July at Banbury Museum and Gallery. See page 15 and oahs.org.uk/oxpast

Would you like to join the committee to help run OAHs?

We meet four times per year and there are other sub-committees which continue their work all year round.

Contact Jill Hind, OAHs Secretary, for more details
secretary@oahs.org.uk



Members Reminder

Subscriptions run from January to December. Please do check to see that your payment has been received for this year.

You can log into the members page on the website to find out oahs.org.uk, or send an email to the Membership Secretary, Beverley Lear members@oahs.org.uk.

NEWSLETTER

Agenda for AGM 2022

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 Approval of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2021
- 3 Matters arising from the minutes
- 4 Reports of Officers and Subcommittees
- 5 Finance
 - a) Report of Hon. Treasurer
 - b) Adoption of accounts
 - c) Appointment of Examiner
- 6 Elections
 - a) All officers are prepared to restand.
 - b) Nominations for general committee vacancies will be accepted.
- 7 Any other business

Minutes of the OAHS AGM

Held via Zoom 12th June 2021 at 10.30 am

(Registered Charity No. 259055)

The President, Geoffrey Tyack, took the chair. 49 members had booked to attend the event. The average attendance at the AGM was 44.

1. Apologies – No apologies were received.
2. Minutes
 - a) The 2020 AGM had been cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The arrangements for necessary business had been given in the Newsletter.
 - b) Emergency Amendment to OAHS Rules.
To make it possible for the OAHS to move its meeting to Zoom in an emergency such as the pandemic the following change was proposed:
Additional Rule VI d) Where required for reasons of safety, participation in AGM and EGMs may be facilitated using postal or electronic means.
There were no objections, and the Rule was adopted.

3. Reports of Officers and Subcommittees.

These had been circulated and no questions were raised. The President said that it showed that the Society had continued to be active despite the Covid-19 restrictions.

4. Finance

a) Report of Hon. Treasurer

The Treasurer explained that although income had risen slightly the overall position showed a loss. This was due mainly to the high cost of *Oxoniensia* and the up-front editorial costs for the Monograph. A reduced cost for the journal has now been negotiated and the income from the Monograph will appear in the 2021 figures. The value of assets had fallen because of the stock market reaction to the pandemic, but were recovering well.

The President recommended the Monograph, which he had found to be an interesting and high-quality publication.

b) Adoption of accounts and balance sheet.

The accounts were commended to the Society and were adopted.

c) Appointment of Examiners

The Treasurer expressed his thanks to Jim Moore, of Chapman, Robinson and Moore, for his services as Examiner. It was proposed that he be reappointed and there was no dissention.

5. Election of Officers

a) Peter Steere has left Oxfordshire and has resigned as Membership Secretary and has handed over to Beverley Lear.

The President registered a vote of thanks to Peter Steere for all his hard work, including making numerous changes to the system. The Society currently has ~400 active members.

b) Two nominations had been received for Ordinary Members of the Committee.

John Stevenson

Nominated: Bob Crabtree Seconded: David Clark

Eugene Coyle

Nominated: Jill Hind Seconded: Becky Peacock

These nominations were accepted by the meeting. Eugene Coyle was present and introduced himself briefly.

c) All existing Committee members were all prepared to restand. These officers were approved by the meeting.

6. Any other business

a) The President announced that a Library Subcommittee had been instituted to look at all the Society's Collections, which includes Casts, Brass Rubbings, Books and other material. OAHS is about the oldest county society working in this area and one of the very few, if not the only one, to retain its collections. These are important and need to be protected although they are somewhat dispersed. Another meeting will be held in the autumn. The hope is to raise awareness of the material and to improve access.

b) The President thanked the Committee for their work and support. He reminded attendees that the society had lost two long-standing members. Ann Spokes Symonds had been a loyal supporter and a very knowledgeable local historian. Chris Day had been Geoffrey Tyack's predecessor in his office. As well as working hard for OAHS Chris Day had been an important part of the Oxfordshire VCH project. More information is in his obituary in the Newsletter.

c) The programme for the next year was in the planning stage. Talks will resume in the autumn and events will return to face-to-face when practicable. Meanwhile the walks programme had begun and will continue subject to the Government's Covid-19 restrictions.

The meeting closed at 10.47 am.

Reports for 2021 - 2022

From the President

We live in what might charitably be described as interesting times, but over the past year the Society has nevertheless succeeded in putting on a full programme of varied and stimulating lectures on Oxfordshire history, archaeology and architecture from the Iron Age to the 20th century, and I am immensely grateful to all our speakers and officers for making this possible. It was a particular pleasure to return to the lecture room at Rewley House for our annual Tom Hassall lecture, on recent research on Roman Oxfordshire, on 8 March, and I sincerely hope that we will be

able to resume our normal Tuesday lectures there in October of this year, hopefully with a streaming service that should enable participation by those who are unwilling or unable to attend in person.

Last year's AGM and 'Oxfordshire Past' had to be held online, but we are planning to hold these events in person at the Banbury Museum and Gallery on **Saturday 9 July** this year, and I hope that many of you will be able to attend. I am also delighted that we will be resuming our programme of summer excursions: please see below for details. The 2022 volume of *Oxoniensia* is in active preparation, and our Listed Buildings Committee has been meeting regularly over the past year, as has OCCAF, monitoring and commenting on the many proposed developments in the city and county. We have also been reviewing the state of our own extensive archives and collections, which date back to the 1830s, and I am pleased to report that they are in good condition, some of them in the county's storage facility at Standlake, the rest in the Bodleian Library and its Swindon outstation.

As always, I am greatly indebted to our officers and committee members for their hard work on behalf of the Society, and am looking forward to working with them in the forthcoming months.

Geoffrey Tyack

Secretary's Annual Report 2021-2

Most of the time has been spent on the normal Secretary's job, of arranging and minuting Committee meetings and acting as a central point for queries. I have continued to host Zoom committee meetings.

I have also been hosting the Lecture series on Zoom, which has generally gone smoothly. The first hybrid lecture was a little more challenging and thanks are due to the Rewley House technical staff for the induction and support.

More recently, working with Roger Ainslie, I compiled and submitted on behalf of OAHS a response to the consultation on the County Council's proposed strategy for the future of the Libraries and Heritage Service.

Jill Hind

Listed Buildings Sub-Committee

Local council	2021 total (2020 total)
Cherwell	4 (3)
Oxford City (including the Victorian Group)	54 (57)
South Oxon	7 (5)
Vale	8 (1)
West Oxon	1 (0)
Total	74 (66)

In 2021 the sub-committee sent detailed comments to the relevant council planning departments on 74 planning applications, the majority in Oxford city. At the time of writing [March 2022], 20% of applications on which we commented have been withdrawn by the applicants, 8% have been refused permission, 58% have been granted permission, and the remaining 14% are still waiting a decision. Our comments appear to have been taken into consideration in about 51% of the cases on which a decision has been made (it was 48% in 2020). We are still concerned that many planning applications are being registered despite containing inadequate documentation; in 2021 about 41% of applications (up from 29% last year) fell into this category in our opinion. In 2021 we started recording who (if anyone) had written the heritage assessment required as part of a listed building application; by our reckoning in 40 % of cases there was no heritage assessment at all, or the heritage assessment was written by someone who was not a qualified heritage professional.

Peter Howell of the Victorian Group commented on 25 applications, mainly in North Oxford. We are grateful to Esther Robinson Wild who keeps us abreast of updates to documentation and best practice from Historic England and other national bodies. We were sorry to lose Martin Whitworth, caseworker for Cherwell (south) and South Oxfordshire (west), who resigned from the sub-committee in the autumn. His contributions over several years have been much appreciated. We were pleased to welcome John Copping as new caseworker for Cherwell (south) in December. John is a member of the Oxfordshire Buildings

Record, and does some casework for the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB). We also welcomed Laurie Dighton to the sub-committee, representing the Oxford Preservation Trust (OPT); her place was taken by fellow OPT officer Shona Carr later in the year.

We continue to work closely with OPT on cases affecting Oxford City, and to notify national groups such as the Council for British Archaeology (CBA), SPAB, the Georgian Group, the Victorian Society and the Twentieth Century Society of cases which we think are worthy of their attention.

We are always keen to hear from OAHS members who would like to join the sub-committee and get involved in the protection of Oxfordshire's architectural heritage. Please contact lbsecretary@oahs.org.uk for an informal discussion about this interesting role.

Liz Woolley (Secretary) and David Clark (Chairman)

Oxoniensia

This year's *Oxoniensia*, due out in early December, includes a healthy mix of history and archaeology, with contributions on the city and the wider county. David Clark supplies an in-depth investigation of the seventeenth-century vernacular building at No. 84 St Aldate's in Oxford, so long to be seen covered in tarpaulin. Elsewhere in the county, Stephen Miles and Dan Miles set out the 'restoration of Mapledurham': the lifetime's work of the late Jack Eyston in saving and renovating Mapledurham House and almost forty other listed buildings on the Mapledurham estate. John Blair gives us a fascinating insight into a substantial Roman site at Showells in West Oxfordshire which may have been associated with a springhead shrine. Sommer Hallquist reassesses the well-known medieval wall paintings in Chalgrove church, and Michael Redley lays bare the politics of sewerage nineteenth- and early twentieth-century Henley.

This year's archaeological reports include the important discovery of a late Anglo-Saxon extra-mural suburb at Wallingford. Regular archaeological round-ups are joined by notes about a lost medieval Abingdon undercroft and an Oxfordshire surname ('Merry') which may have related to medieval medical practitioners.

Stephen Miles, editor Oxoniensia

Treasurer's Report

2021 was a very satisfactory year from a financial perspective. The balance of income over expenditure was £10,485. This compares with a small loss in 2020. The higher income was due mainly to income from Oxoniensia and the publication of 'The Archaeology of Oxford in the 21st Century'. (See page 11 for details.) There was also an increase in income from subscriptions, from gift aid (two years were claimed) and from dividends on investment, the latter reflecting an increased investment in charitable funds.

Expenditure was slightly higher than in 2020 and this mainly reflected an increase in grants to the Oxfordshire Victoria County History and a grant for dendrochronology dating at Champs Chapel, East Hendred. The value of investments increased and this together with the positive net income produced net assets at the year-end of £133,436, an increase of £22,100 on the previous year. A more stable situation is expected for 2022 when income from publications will be lower and the cost of lectures will increase if face-to-face lectures are resumed.

Bob Crabtree

Excursion Secretary's Reports

There were nine guided walks in the year 2021-2022 with the numbers attending shown at the end of each entry

Wheatley Saturday 5th June 2021 led by Michael Heaton. 17

Dorchester Saturday 19 June 2021 led by Malcolm Airs. 20 + 5 reserves

Witney Wednesday 7th July 2021 led by Jill Hind. 24

Chipping Norton Sunday 18 July led by Adrienne Rosen. 19

Abingdon Saturday 31 July led by David Clark. 21

Ewelme Saturday 4 September led by Simon Townley. 18

Rollright Stones 25 September led by George Lambrick. 14

Goring 20 October led by Simon Townley. 16 + 3 reserves

Middleton Stoney 23 October led Trevor Rowley. 8

These proved popular, with several overbooked. However, they tended to attract the same people. To try to broaden the appeal, one coach trip is planned in 2022.

Michael Heaton

OXFORDSHIRE ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY ACCOUNTS : STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS DEC 31st 2021
INCOME EXPENDITURE

2020 (£)		2021 (£)		2020 (£)		2021 (£)	
		Oxoniensia, grants, subscriptions		Publications: printing and distribution			
10088.97	Members and subscriptions	11655.34		12203.00	Oxoniensia Volume 86	14050.02	
0.00	Advance payments	0.00		4371.39	Editorial costs - Oxoniensia	4500.00	
9400.00	Publication grants etc.	17916.93		0.00	Editorial costs - Miscellaneous publication	0.00	
19488.97	Sub Total	29572.27		16574.39	Sub total	18550.02	
84.00	Other Memb receipts	129.00		1386.25	Lectures	583.17	
447.23	Excursions	0.00		436.30	Excursions	0.00	
20.10	Oxfordshire Past	0.00		6.70	Oxfordshire Past	0.00	
651.63	Gift Aid	1745.23		150.00	Affiliations (CBA, BALH)	209.50	
19.32	Donations and Arrears	0.00		2260.00	Donations and prizes	3567.00	
143.60	Miscellaneous	188.76		1820.38	Web Site	1820.38	
0.59	Bank & COIF interest	0.00		1529.29	Postage, stationery, printing	1066.62	
4077.90	Dividends	4925.82		33.07	Miscellaneous	279.08	
382.96	Interest on National Savings	0.00					
25316.30	Total income	36561.08		24196.38	Total expenditure	26075.77	
				-3030.08	Balance of income over expenditure	10485.31	
				BANK AND OTHER INVESTMENT BALANCES (£)			
				31st Dec 2020		31st Dec 2021	
				£		£	
				6845.76	Bank current accounts	26148.80	
				0.00	CAF	0.00	
				628.61	PayPal	2128.95	
				20317.99	National Savings Bank	0.00	
				0.00	Charities Investment Fund (COIF)	0.00	
				70062.75	M&G Charifund (at Dec 31st)	79436.14	
				13437.12	Schroders Charity Fund (at Dec 31st)	25722.80	
				111292.23		133436.69	
M&G Charifund		5104,494	1556,20				
Schroders Charit		29180,72	88,15				

Membership Secretary's Report

I have now completed a year as membership secretary. It has been a pleasure to correspond and help members where required and I would like to thank everyone for their patience as I get to grips with the intricacies of the record keeping system.

As you are probably aware, membership details are now fully computerised and I have been working alongside Meriel Lewis, our OAHS webmanager to make the system more user friendly. Members are able to check their record and amend addresses if required via the members section of the website. Indeed, one of the few positives to come out of the pandemic is that more members now use the members link not only to book up lectures and excursions, but to check their membership record. I echo my predecessor, Peter Steere in urging members to request login details if you haven't already done so.

Our membership figures remain strong, but I note that 70 members have not yet paid their subscriptions for this year. The subscription year runs from January to December, with a cut-off on 31st May - so there is still time for you to renew your membership for this year. This can be done via the PayPal link on our website, or by sending a cheque made out to the Oxfordshire Architectural and Historical Society, sent c/o Beverley Lear, 8 East Street, Oxford, OX2 0AU.

We have a super programme of events coming up and it would be a shame to lose you as we all begin to re-engage with normal life again. I have really enjoyed the excursions I have been on, not only has it been a pleasure finding out more about places that we have driven through for years, but also a welcome opportunity to meet new people too.

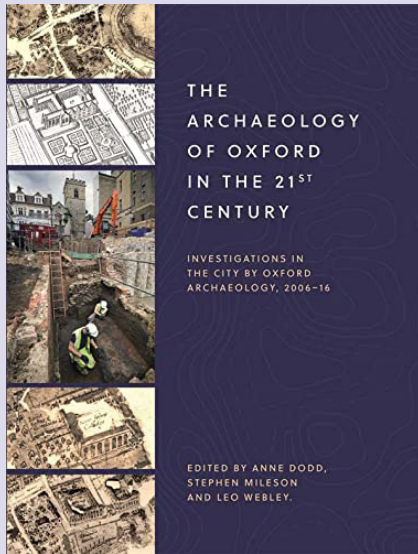
Beverley Lear

If you have forgotten your login details or have not logged into the website before and need to be issued with a new login, please email: webmanager@oahs.org.uk giving your name, address and Membership Number which you will find on the address label for this newsletter.

The Archaeology of Oxford in the 21st Century

Anne Dodd, Stephen Mileson, Leo Webley

ISBN 978-1783276134 £30



A major new contribution to the archaeology and history of Oxford, including introductory chapters by Tom Hassall and David Radford.

OAHS is delighted to announce the publication of its first Occasional Paper, a 480-page, full colour volume on 'The Archaeology of Oxford in the 21st Century', available for just £30 + p&p.

This richly illustrated volume is based on excavations in central Oxford carried out by Oxford Archaeology and mainly focuses on the Middle Ages. It includes new evidence about the city's inns, colleges, and craft workshops, as well as supplying remarkable insights into diet and everyday life in the Jewish quarter.

The volume includes a new synthesis of current knowledge of Oxford's archaeology by city archaeologist David Radford, and a review of changing approaches to urban archaeology by Tom Hassall. One of the most exciting findings was the first very likely medieval Jewish signature in British archaeology.

Excursions

All excursions must be booked in advance
via our website oahs.org.uk

If you need help logging in email the OAHS Webmanager for
assistance - see page 10 for details

Thursday 30 June

Broughton Castle and Rousham House

£57 per person inclusive of coffee/tea on arrival at Broughton Castle
plus quiche and salad lunch at the end of the visit there.

There are still plenty of spaces available for this interesting outing.

Broughton Castle is a medieval fortified manor house in the village of Broughton which is about two miles south-west of Banbury, Oxfordshire. It is the home of the Fiennes family, Barons Saye and Sele. The castle sits on an artificial island in pastureland and is surrounded by a wide moat.

Rousham House, continuously in the ownership of one family, was built circa 1635 and remodelled by William Kent in the 18th century in a free Gothic style. Further alterations were carried out in the 19th century. Guided tours are given by the owning family. Extensive garden and grounds.

Transport is included: 30-seater coach will leave St Giles at 08.30 and pick-up at Pear Tree P & R.

Arrive Broughton Castle at 10.00, leaving at 13.30 to arrive at Rousham House at 14.00. Depart 16.30, reversing arrangements back to St Giles.



www.broughtoncastle.com



www.rousham.org

Saturday 30 July

Wheatley free guided walk

The Wheatley Heritage walk is being repeated by OAHs excursions organiser **Michael Heaton** who has immersed himself in the history of Wheatley since moving here 4 years ago. Wheatley has an industrial background from its days of limestone quarrying from the 14th century supplying high quality stone for Windsor Castle and many of the Oxford colleges. This took Wheatley into the top echelon of Oxfordshire villages as shown in the survey of 1334. Evidence of these quarries remains.

A few fine dressed stone buildings remain and there are many houses of lesser-quality rubble. As well as having this outcrop, Wheatley also sat on two seams of Kimmeridge clay which resulted in brickworks in the village from 1742 to 1939. Wheatley High Street was also on the main road from London to Oxford via Shotover Plain, bringing considerable passing trade, until re-routed at the end of the 18th century. The influence of this historical past on the current village underlies this tour.

The tour will end with tea at the Sun public house (payable on the day), one of three remaining pubs from 15 that have existed over time.

No transport is provided but the 280 and U1 buses from Oxford High will drop you near the starting point.



www.wheatleyarchive.org.uk

Saturday 20 August

Chalgrove Manor and Church

Self-drive. £22 not including lunch (to be individually booked or you may bring a picnic).

The Grade I listed manor house is early 15th-century and stands partly on the site of an earlier building, originally the de Plessis manor and manorial court-house. The great hall has a medieval oak screen on the ground floor, possibly from the 13th-century house. The house has a finely-detailed arch-braced collar roof and the carpentry is of exceptional quality and it may be that the carpenters were the same as those who built the Royal Palace at nearby Ewelme around the same time. The north wing has a medieval annexe and garderobe chute outlet. The rear extensions are early 16th century. The south wing parlour has 17th-century painted grained panels. The building sits close to the site of the Civil War battle of Chalgrove Field.

Chalgrove Church dates from the 13th century and is thought to remain substantially as it was in 1500. Around 1320, the chancel was decorated with a series of wall paintings showing the Last Judgement and the medieval legend of the Assumption of Mary. These have been described as *'one of the most complete series in the country'*. Limewashed over at the time of the Reformation, they were rediscovered in 1858 during renovation.



chalgrove.info



chalgrovechurch.org

Oxfordshire Past 2022

Oxfordshire Past this year will take place at **Banbury Museum and Gallery on 9th July** and will include the 2022 OAHS AGM (see page 2 for details of the agenda and a diverse programme of talks (see page 16).



There will be a range of stalls and exhibits including the museum's exhibition **Heroes of the Viking World** (separate entrance fee) open throughout the day. If you would like to have a stall or advertise please contact Becky Peacock becky.peacock@oxfordarchaeology.com.

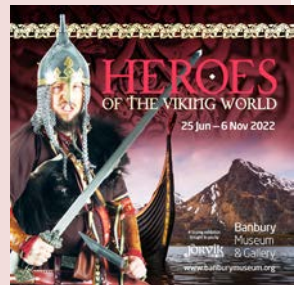
The Banbury Museum and Gallery is in the centre of Banbury, within the Castle Quay Shopping Centre, is fully accessible and there are many shops and eating places nearby. The museum straddles the Oxford Canal, a perfect spot to enjoy a picnic or a take a stroll in the lunch break between all the engaging talks.

Tickets cost £10 and include tea/coffee during the breaks and may be purchased in advance from oahs.org.uk or on the day (there is a limit to the number of places so book early to avoid disappointment).

Online payments are preferred but you may send a cheque made payable to OAHS along with your name and full address to Becky Peacock, Oxfordshire Past, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0ES.

Heroes of the Viking World **Sat 25th June - Sun 6th November 2022**

In this age, where superheroes exist only in fiction, discover some of the real-life 'celebrities' of the Viking world, including Eric Bloodaxe – last Viking King of York, Lathgertha – warrior woman, and Harald Hardrada – the thunderbolt of the North. Delve into the world of Viking myth and uncover the superpowers of Viking gods such as Thor and Odin. Plus, immerse yourself in the smells and sights of the Viking Age when you step inside the impressive replica Viking tent!



Oxfordshire Past 2022 Programme

Time	Talk	Speaker
10.00	Welcome to Oxfordshire Past 2022	Geoffrey Tyack, OAHS Chairman
10.05	OAHS AGM 2022	See page 2 for agenda
10.30	Recent archaeological work in the city of Oxford	David Radford, Oxford City Archaeologist
10.50	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11.20	Oxfordshire Buildings Record activity in 2021	Paul Clark, Oxfordshire Buildings Record
11.55	Excavations at Drayton Lodge Farm, Banbury	Carl Champness, Oxford Archaeology
12.20	Banbury Remembered	Barrie Goodey, Banbury Historical Society
12.45	A chance to look through <i>Banbury Remembered</i> and celebrate its publication	Banbury Historical Society
1.00	<i>Lunch break</i>	
1.50	Archaeology in Oxfordshire in 2021	TBC
2.20	Beacons of the Past	Wendy Morrison, Beacons of the Past project
2.40	<i>Tea break</i>	
3.10	Update on the work of the Victoria County History	Simon Townley, Victoria County History
3.35	Heroes of the Viking World	TBC
3.55	Closing address and introduction to the tours	Geoffrey Tyack, OAHS Chairman
From 4.00	A tour of the museum gallery	Simon Townsend Director of Banbury Museum and Gallery
<i>For any amendments to the programme see oahs.org.uk/oxpast</i>		