Enquiries report for GLHA AGM 2025, received April 2024 to end March 2025

Enquiries to GLHA have decreased from last year. From April 2024 to March 2025 inclusive fourteen were logged and the correspondence kept on file. All but one were received in 2024, with clusters in July and September to December. I usually refer the enquirer to members or to other sources of help. I sometimes make suggestions from my own investigations, but the GLHA does not offer a research service.

Three were about families: connections to Oak Bank school, Gloucester, the Sissons family of Chosen House in Hucclecote, and searches for people in old photographs. Most family researchers are now familiar with online resources.

Three concerned houses or particular places: a possible TB sanatorium at Huntley, old photographs of Gloucester, and a search for 'Saddleworth' (not found in Gloucestershire).

The remaining eight related to a range of subjects: helping to find speakers for history in schools, ghosts in Cheltenham, and for a radio programme on farming, finding homes for BGAS publications, copies of the 'Gloucester Journal', and a study on a Chedworth carrier, and research into a Dursley steam roller and methods of recording oral history.

A number of notices, personal communications, books offered for review, and enquiries about the Speakers List were passed on as appropriate. The GLHA does not usually publicise events organised by others. Some event and book flyers are still received, but they are not responded to unless they are published by our members or are of direct local interest, subject to the committee's discretion.

Many of the enquiries to GLHA this year have come from people wanting help with disposing of historical items, finding speakers, or publishing their own research. Those wanting a research service now turn in the first place to online resources, although GLHA can sometimes help when other lines of enquiry have run out.

The Speakers List continues to be a valued resource.

Janet Hudson