

Report from Gloucestershire County History Trust  
for GLHA AGM and Forum June 16<sup>th</sup> 2025

On the Cirencester volume, Francis Boorman and Alex Craven have been busy revising and updating their respective texts for the volume, preparing the draft maps and lists of potential illustrations. Francis has had to restructure the text for Cirencester itself because we decided it would be better presented as a single narrative rather than being broken down by periods as originally intended. This makes it compliant with current central office guidance too. Francis is currently working on the volume introduction. Simon has been commenting in detail on the draft text, trying to ensure consistency and conformity with established VCH practice. We hope to publish the draft history of Coates online in the next few days. We remain hopeful that the final text can be submitted to Central Office for approval and peer review by the end of 2025.

On the Cheltenham volume, work on Charlton Kings is currently paused while Alex Craven tidies up his parishes for the Cirencester volume. He should get back to it in July. We are still waiting for the last sections of Leckhampton and Swindon Village from Louise Ryland-Epton and John Chandler respectively.

On the Sodbury volume, Dr Lydia Fisher began work at the beginning of April and Dr Abigail Lloyd will start work on 1 July on their respective parishes. Lydia has given us a very sensible workplan for her research on Acton Turville and Tormarton, and she is now undertaking the research work. Dr Neil Stacy continues to work on Dyrham.

We have not yet issued any contracts for work on the Winchcombe volume, but we hope to receive the balance of Pat Bath's legacy later this year, and to begin work on Hailes as soon as a contractor becomes available.

Work on preparing the Cirencester volume (XVI) for publication continues, with Alex Craven and Simon Draper both focusing on finalizing texts of the rural parish histories and adding drafts of Coates, Duntisbourne Abbots, Duntisbourne Rouse and Preston to our website, hopefully over the summer. Francis Boorman has also edited and improved the Cirencester town sections, and work has begun on drawing maps and sourcing illustrations for the volume. In other news, our two new contributors have begun work on the remaining parishes for the Chipping Sodbury volume (XIV), Lydia Fisher working on Acton Turville and Tormarton and Abigail Lloyd on Dodington and Wapley with Codrington, and Alex Craven, Louise Ryland-Epton and John Chandler are continuing their researches on Charlton Kings, Leckhampton and Swindon parishes respectively for the Cheltenham volume (XV). Our volunteers continue to provide invaluable support by transcribing and cataloguing documents at the Heritage Hub, mainly for volumes XIV and XVII (Winchcombe)