



**Minutes of the Members' Forum**  
**held on Monday 8th September 2025 at 2.00 pm**  
**at the Heritage Hub**

**Those present were:**

Blockley Heritage Society	Roger Thornburgh
Bryan Jerrard Judge	Steven Blake
Bryan Jerrard Judge and speaker	John Chandler
Cheltenham Local History Society	Stuart Manton, David Scriven, Sally Self
Chipping Campden History Society	Judith Ellis, Mary Fielding
Churchdown Local History Society	Jane Whittaker
Cotteswold Naturalists Field Club	Peter Cornish
Dursley & Cam Society	Lynne Titshall, Michael Titshall
Forest of Dean Local History Society	Nigel Costley, Avril Kear, Mary Sullivan, Keith Walker, Sue Walker
Gloucestershire Archaeology	Denise Vizor
Gloucestershire Branch of The Historical Association	Mike Greet
Gloucestershire County History Trust	David Aldred
Gloucestershire Society for Industrial Archaeology	Chas Townley
Gloucester Street History Group (Winchcombe)	Rob White
Leckhampton Local History Society	Anne Gale, Stephen Gale
Minsterworth	Terry Moore-Scott
Nailsworth Society Local History Research Group	Jane Butler, Paul Butler
Oakridge History Group	John Loosley
Painswick Local History Society	Carol Maxwell, Peter Jackson
Stonehouse History Group	Janet Hudson, Vicki Walker
Stroud and District Learners Circle	John Peters
Stroud Local History Society	Howard Beard, Tony Macer
Swindon Village Society Local History Group	Eileen Allen

**36 attendees**

**Apologies for absence:**

Berkeley	Margaret Orchard
Birdlip History Group	Harvey Mattinson
Chalford Parish Local History Group	Roger Carnt
Charlton Kings Local and Family History Society	Geoff Bridgman
Churchdown Local History Society	Joan Hughes
Cirencester Archaeological and Historical Society	Anne Buffoni
Cotteswold Naturalists Field Club	Jane Rowe
Cranham Local History Society	Jan Whitton
Gloucestershire Archives	John Putley
Gloucestershire Family History Society	Vicky Thorpe
Glos Waterways Museum	Chris Witts
Maisemore Local History Society	David Jones
Prestbury History Society	Val Porter
Tewkesbury Historical Society	John Dixon

## **Minutes of the GLHA Forum held 16th June 2025**

were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

### **Matters arising**

#### Amendment to Constitution

The agreed amendment had been made and a new version of the constitution signed by the Chair and Secretary.

### **Chair's Report by Sally Self**

Members were emailed a written report before the meeting. The Chair drew attention to the following additional points.

### **Forum Monday 8th December at 11.00 am**

#### **Running a Local History Society**

Members have expressed an interest in the various ways that different societies and groups are managed, including the average costs. A questionnaire about this has been sent to all member groups. We would be grateful if this could be completed as soon as you can with a deadline of Friday 31st October so that we can collate results and produce a report for discussion at the December Forum meeting. The secretary agreed to send out the Questionnaire again in case Groups had not received it.

**NB this is a morning meeting - Christmas refreshments will be provided after the meeting.**

#### Website

Mary Sullivan had updated the Speakers List. Several new speakers had been added.

David Jones had updated the Local Societies Events List. The next deadline for submitting your events is 1st December for publication in January 2026. Please send to [events@gloshistory.org.uk](mailto:events@gloshistory.org.uk)

#### Local History Day 2026

The committee had met that morning and, after discussion, had reluctantly decided that organising a Local History Day in July 2026 would not be achievable, particularly in view of the fact that many of the existing committee were not standing for re-election in June.

#### Committee members

The Chair appealed for new committee members and officers. A discussion followed concerning the difficulties of all groups to obtain volunteers to take on responsibilities. Committee member, Peter Jackson (Painswick), drew attention to the issue that, if new committee members could not be found, then GLHA would be likely to fold.

### **Treasurer's Report by David Scriven**

Members were emailed a written report and a copy of the Annual Accounts for before the meeting.

The treasurer reported that the financial situation of the Association was good, with the balance of funds standing at £3425 at 31st August. The bulk of the income comes from subscriptions from our member groups. Of the 56 groups from the previous year 53 had paid, one had promised to pay and two groups had not yet notified the treasurer of their intentions.

The Chair commented that it might be possible to use some of the funds to pay for secretarial support if a volunteer cannot be found.

### **Report from Glos County History Trust by David Aldred (Trustee)**

Please send on the July Newsletter to your members. It can be accessed at [vchglos.org.uk](http://vchglos.org.uk)

DA drew attention to Cirencester History Festival, being held from 24th October to 2nd November. <https://cirencesterhistoryfestival.org/>

### **Report from Gloucestershire Archives by John Putley (Community Heritage Officer)**

Members had received a written report before the meeting. JP was unable to attend this meeting.

## AOB

Members discussed ways of supporting GLHA in the future. Ideas suggested:  
Trying to attract younger people – an issue to be included at the December meeting.  
Working with Gloucester History Festival.  
Reconsidering the membership structure.  
Using social media.

## Short break followed by:

### Bryan Jerrard Award

Steven Blake, Chair of the Judges, introduced the Award ceremony. He thanked his fellow judges John Chandler, David Aldred and particularly Mike Greet, who was standing down after many years as a judge.

Twelve member groups had submitted Journals and the judges had chosen a shortlist of 10 articles, the authors and titles of which had been emailed to all. SB thanked the shortlisted authors for attending the meeting. He commented on the high standard of content and production.

### **The winner of the 2024 Award was:**

Steven Carter for his article '*Coleford's Jovial Foresters*', in the Forest of Dean Local History Society's journal *The New Regard* **39** (2024). Steven was unable to attend and so the award of £60, sponsored by the History Press, was received by the editor, Nigel Costley, on his behalf.

### **The runner-up was:**

Terry Moore-Scott for his article '*The Manor, Hamlet and Tithing of Broadwell in Leckhampton*', *Leckhampton Local History Society Research Bulletin* **6** (2024). Terry attended to receive his prize of £40 sponsored by the History Press.

It was hoped to publish the winning articles on the GLHA website in due course.

The Chair thanked Steven Blake and the judges for their work on this and John Chandler for presenting the prizes.

### **John Chandler presented**

*'From village carrier to National Express: the local history of Gloucestershire public transport'*

John traced the history of local transport, from the early carriers using horses and carts to the introduction of trams, omnibuses and coach services. He described how the geography of an area and historical events influenced the development of different transport systems. He commented that transport is an area often neglected by local historians even though there is a wealth of evidence both in paper documents and websites. His enthusiasm for the topic shone through and encouraged us all to consider researching this aspect of our own town's history.

The meeting closed at 4.15 pm.

Agreed at a meeting on.....

Signed.....(Chair)