



LAST MEETING

In February our speaker was David Fry, a researcher and author from Coventry, who presented a fascinating collection of photographs that turned up at a car boot sale in Warwickshire. It turned out that the glass plates that were taken to the sale were only part of a collection discovered in the attic of a house in Earlsdon which had once belonged to Frederick Hancox (1876-1966), a Coventry carpenter and keen amateur photographer. The plates were found when a builder was clearing out the house and David has converted many of them to digital photos.



In David's talk he was able to introduce us to Fred and his family through the photographs, because they were an observation of his life and the world that he lived in. Unlike wealthy amateur photographers who often had artistic pretensions and concentrated on capturing nature, Fred took photographs of whatever was happening in the streets outside his front door.

We ventured from his own and his parents' front doorsteps in Stoke (where he lived before moving to Earlsdon) and Bubbenhall, past the local postman. We saw his wife and daughters at home and on days out in the local area, some of his carpentry work and his life in the 7th Royal Warwickshire Regiment, where he was a Signaller during WWI, visiting street entertainers, a train derailment and the funeral of a well-known local dignitary.

David's talk was excellent and his scans are high quality, giving a vivid picture of the time. There was a discussion afterwards and David was happy to offer advice as well as receive information about the locations we had seen.

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

March sees us taking a tentative step back into the real world!

We do not have a speaker, instead we will have a discussion session to catch up on what we have all been up to... with tea and coffee, of course. Mask-wearing, hand-sanitising and ventilation all continues to be considered by tKC and we would ask you to bring masks to be worn in communal areas and consider others throughout your visit. We look forward to seeing you.

NEXT MONTH'S MEETING

In April we are thrilled that we will finally be having our probate researcher talk, following several postponements and a change of speaker. Helen Ball BA MCLIP FPAR will be speaking to us live about Heir-Hunting. We hope you will be able to join us.

TALKS

TALKS MAY BE SUBJECT TO POSTPONEMENT OR CANCELLATION; PLEASE CHECK THE APPROPRIATE WEBSITE TO CHECK.

- **Warwickshire Industrial Archaeology Society** www.warwickshireias.org
Meetings at 7:30pm at The Halse Pavilion, Warwick School, WARWICK CV34 6PP and ONLINE
Thu, 10 Mar *'The changing industrial landscape of Warwick 1880 - 1920: Glover, Eagle, Boon - and Glover again!'* by Martin Green. For details of how to join by ZOOM, please see the website
- **Kenilworth History & Archaeology Society** www.khas.co.uk
Meeting at 7:30pm at The Senior Citizens' Club, Abbey End, KENILWORTH CV8 1QJ
Thu, 10 Mar *'Henry VIII and the Field of the Cloth of Gold'* by Dr Gillian White
- **Leamington History Group** <https://leamingtonhistory.co.uk>
Meeting at 7:30pm at Oddfellows Hall, 22 New Street, LEAMINGTON SPA CV31 1HP
Mon, 28 Mar AGM followed by Nigel Bishop, former Parks Manager, talking about Jephson Gardens

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CIVIL WAR LOSS ACCOUNTS

A project that two of our members were involved in is to be launched. An email from the Friends of Warwickshire County Records office confirmed, "pleased to announce to the Friends the on-line launch of the website for the Warwickshire 'Loss Accounts' project".

The Warwickshire 'Loss Accounts' record the financial, physical and emotional suffering of hundreds of named civilians across the county between 1641 and 1646, before and during the First English Civil War.

In a unique project, 'Loss Accounts' volunteers have transcribed and tabulated all the known accounts for a single county, creating an important source for local, social, family and military historians alike.

The project was created and managed by Dr Maureen Harris and ran from June 2018 to June 2020 and volunteers included our own members, Lynn Hockton and Lesley Plant. It was supported by the Friends of the Warwickshire County Record Office and the Dugdale Society, and received funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

The online launch of the 'Loss Accounts' website will be on Saturday, 26 March 2022, 2:30-3:30pm and you can join on the day using this link: [Click here to join the Live Event](#)

To enter the Warwickshire Loss Accounts database, go to: heritage.warwickshire.gov.uk/civilwaraccounts

LEAMINGTON SPA: COULD LIGHTS FESTIVAL RETURN TO TOWN?

Ambitious plans to revive a lights festival that drew large crowds to a Warwickshire town in the 1950s are being considered.

The Lights of Leamington ran in Royal Leamington Spa's Jephson Gardens for a decade between 1951 and 1961.



Leamington Spa Art Gallery and Museum

Leamington Spa Art Gallery and Museum



It was described as a "fairy tale of colour", and aimed to lift the mood of visitors who had faced years of austerity after the war.

Now Arts Council funding has been secured to conduct a feasibility study to see if a similar festival could be brought back to the town.

A Lights of Leamington steering group has published a collection of photographs from the 1950s, and is appealing for people's memories of the event, which ran through the summer and autumn.

From BBC News

To find out more, read the full article at: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-coventry-warwickshire-60555528>

Are there other local traditions from your youth that you would like to see being revived?

TALKS (CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE)

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• Warwickshire Local History Society

Meetings at 7:30pm ONLINE

Tue, 15 Mar Annual Members' Meeting

Two short presentations by members, on aspects of current research:

'*Rokeby Camp, Rugby*' by Christine Howling, who considers this local example of the 1946 Squatters' Movement.

'*Warwickshire's pioneering role in the development of dog shows*' by Ruth Barbour. In the month that Crufts is hosted by the NEC at Bickenhill, Ruth discusses the county's contribution to the development of dog shows.

To book a place, please use the Eventbrite link:

[Eventbrite WLHS Members' Meeting Tickets](#)

www.warwickshirehistory.org.uk



FESTIVALS, SHOWS & EXHIBITIONS

• 1-3 April 2022 (£)

The Genealogy Show: Spring Event

go to: www.thegenealogyshowlive.com

• 25 June 2022 (£)

The Family History Show: York

go to: <https://thefamilyhistoryshow.com>