

Society's Objective

The Society's primary objective is to promote the advancement of public education through the study of local history in Biggleswade.

The objective is achieved by:

- { holding monthly meetings and outings
- { distribution of a newsletter
- { holding and supporting exhibitions
- { representation at county meetings
- { publication of historical booklets
- { supporting conservation and preservation

Membership is open to all who are interested in furthering this objective.

President

The Society is pleased to announce that Jennifer Topham has agreed to be President, with effect from April 2023.

Committee for the Society Year 2023 – 2024

Chairman Sandra Ransom
 Secretary Vacant
 Treasurer Steve Williams email only
 Archivist Geraldine Mason email only
 General Duties David Skinner
 Rachel Howlett
 Mark Docherty

Contact email addresses:

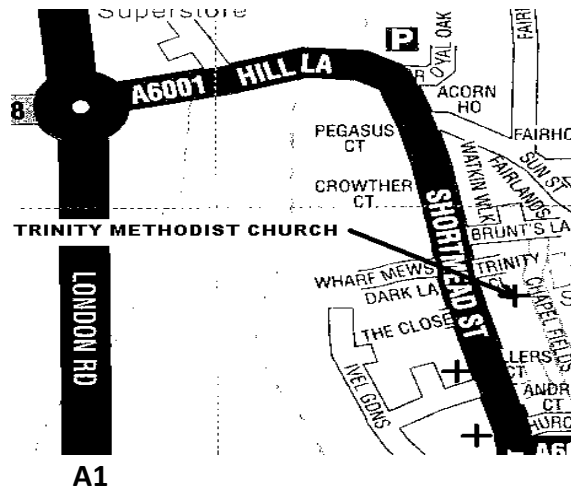
chairman@biggleswadehistory.org.uk
archivist@biggleswadehistory.org.uk
treasurer@biggleswadehistory.org.uk

Meeting Details

Meetings take place in **Trinity Methodist Church**, Shortmead Street, Biggleswade on the first Monday in each month, unless notified, and will start at **8.00 p.m.**
 (Doors open at **7.30 pm**)

For the three meetings of June to August we usually arrange local walks or visits. The time and venues are separately detailed in the Meetings Schedule

For further details or for offers of talks or visits contact the Chairman.



The Post Code is SG18 0AP

Published April 2024

Biggleswade History Society

Established 1974



Registered Charity Number 298010

2024 - 2025

Society Overview and Programme of Activities

www.BiggleswadeHistory.org.uk

Programme for 2024 – 2025

The Society's 49th Year

Meetings Schedule

- 8 January "The Great Fire of Biggleswade - how researching a ghost story led to new discoveries" a talk by Natalie Doig
- 5 February "Trench Humour in the First World War" - a talk by Stephen Barker of the Buckinghamshire Military Museum Trust
- 4 March "Cook's Way - from Kumfy Cabs to Cooks European " - a talk by John Hammond of the United Counties Preservation Trust, based on his book of the same name
- 8 April A short AGM followed by "The Pioneering Women in Motoring" - a talk by Debbie Land
- 13 May "A Certain Degree of Magnificence: People in the Bedfordshire Landscape" - a talk by Brian Kerr

Further details to follow in due course.

Events Schedule

Event scheduling will be progressive, and details can be obtained from our website or from the Chairman. Please contact us if you would like us to attend your event.

On Our Website

www.BiggleswadeHistory.org.uk
The site contains much information about the Society and the history of Biggleswade. For observations or items for the website contact webmaster David Wheeler via the site.

Newsletters

We welcome history-based information and articles about Biggleswade and its people for our bi-monthly newsletter.

Please contact the Chairman.

Biggleswade Archives

The Society has accumulated a considerable quantity of ephemera, photographs, and records pertinent to Biggleswade. These are available to the members by special arrangement with the Archivist; also, a quantity is always on display at local exhibitions.

We have an archive room that can be used for limited research work but the Society continues actively to seek a way of making the archives more accessible to members and to the public at a research room or heritage facility.

We welcome donations or loan of items of historical interest relating to Biggleswade, and are always pleased to receive photographs or cine film, which can be copied and returned. Please contact the Archivist if you have such items.

Society Membership

Subscription Details

The subscription, for the period April 2023 until March 2024 will be £15 per person. We charge an additional £8 for postal delivery of the bi-monthly newsletter, £3 for hand delivery within town with e-mail being free.

Note that the visitor's fee to attend open meetings is **£4.00**. To become a member of the Society, contact the Chairman for a membership application form, download one from our website or come to any meeting and enquire at the door.

Publications

Copies of publications are available at meetings, via the website, or by contacting Sandra Ransom. Descriptions of all booklets are on the website.

Pricelist

The following are Society Publications:

Old Biggleswade - A Collection of Photographs
Volumes 1-5 £1.00 each
We have an index for these and will look up names & places for a small donation.

Heritage Trail Volume 1 £1.00

Bygone Biggleswade vols. 1-3 £1.00 each
Biggleswade in Words & Pictures £1.00
True Tales Told of Biggleswade of Old £1.00
The Great Fire of Biggleswade £1.00
Townfolk of Biggleswade (Vols 1,2,4) £1.00 each
Vol 3 scanned copy only

Packs of 6 notelets with envelopes. The cards show Biggleswade scenes reproduced from watercolour paintings in the Society's collection, by artist Neville Howard Noller (1882-1978). The packs contain two of each scene. £1.00 a pack

The following hardback book is by Ray Miller & Lee Irvine (publ. 2011 by the Veteran Cycle Club):
'Dan Albone – Cyclist, Inventor and Manufacturer'
- 434 pages A4 generously illustrated. **Now only £10**
(Free local delivery or add £5 for postage)

The following by the late Mary Webb are out of print but are available as a scanned copy by email for 50 p.

Remember Your Manor
- about Stratton and Stratton Park House
Poems and Pictures
Biggleswade's Character and Characters

The following by the late Ken Page are out of print but are available as a scanned copy by email for 50 p:

Thirsty Old Town (Biggleswade's pubs)
The Story of Biggleswade Brewery

Videos

Three Towns – Pottton, Sandy & B'wade £15.00
Billy Lincoln's Films - amateur footage of £2.00
life in Biggleswade in the 1930's.