

## Avon Local History & Archaeology

Registered charity 270930

### Secretary's report 2018-2019

Membership of ALHA was 83 groups and 69 individuals.

Trustees continued in office from the previous year, and were joined by Lucy Hamid of Southern Brooks Archaeology. Volunteers not on the committee included: Isla Kouassi-Kan (Facebook); Jonathan Harlow (reviews editor, booklets editor, publications, grants); Lesley Bowman (Facebook); and Keith Nickless (summer walks).

Activities continued previous practice:

- The 2018 local history day, *Religion and community, conflict and change*, attracted just under 100 attenders.
- A grant was made to Keynsham & Salford Local History Society towards the erection in Keynsham park of an artefact of uncertain origin in memory of victims of the 1968 floods.
- A new edition of the Walks, talks and visits list, edited by Sandy Tebbutt, was published.
- Two new ALHA books, edited by Dr Jonathan Harlow, were published: by Michael Whitfield on *Richard Smith, Bristol surgeon and medical collector 1772 -1843*; and by Nicholas Orme on *Schools, readers and writers in medieval Bristol*.
- The ALHA newsletter was published quarterly, and monthly e-mail updates in between.
- Bob Lawrence continued to improve the ALHA website and maintained it.
- The ALHA facebook page was continued to be maintained by a team consisting of Veronica Bowerman, Lesley Bowman of Nailsea and District Local History Society, Jan Packer of Knowle & Totterdown LHS and Isla Kouassi-Kan of UWE. Numbers of visits to the page have continued to increase.
- With Keith Nickless, Jan Packer also helped Mike Hooper organise the 2018 summer walks at Keynsham, St Werburgh's, the Underfall Yard in Bristol city docks, and Old Portishead, which were mostly well attended.
- UWE and Glenside Hospital Museum hosted the 2018 annual general meeting. The Joe Bettey lecture 2018 was delivered by Stella Man, director of the museum, on *Discovering the secrets to well-being by examining the history of Glenside Hospital*.
- Plans were made during the year for the 2019 local history day, the topic for which was *Getting about*. As UWE would not offer the same premises and did not offer an alternative, plans were made for the event to be held at Thornbury Leisure Centre.