THE LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY



Registered Charity No. 1175119
Hampton Cottage, 64 Church Street, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 8DP
membership@leatherheadhistory.org
www.leatherheadhistory.org

We formed in 1946 to study the history and natural history of Ashtead, the Bookhams, Fetcham, Leatherhead and the surrounding area. Since then we have been a major organisation involved not only with archaeological excavations but also in researching and documenting local people, properties, land and events.

Pre-COVID we met on the third **Friday** of the month, **7.30pm for 8pm**, in Sep-Nov, Jan-May, at the **Leatherhead Institute** at the top of Leatherhead High Street for talks given by members and visiting speakers on a great variety of local history related topics. In early December we held a social event. At present our talks are on-line via Zoom.

Our substantial illustrated **quarterly Newsletter** provides details of events, other Society news and articles submitted by members about their particular areas of interest.

Our **Proceedings**, made up of more extensive papers, are available via the Internet. A printed reference copy is placed in local libraries including the Society's library in the Leatherhead Institute. Members can purchase a printed copy.

Publication is an essential part of the Society's activities and copies of **books written by members and others** are available from the Society's Museum, our Publications Secretary or some local bookshops.

We have an **extensive website** (see top of page) with growing access to on-line **documents** for members.

The Society owns Hampton Cottage at 64 Church Street, Leatherhead. This houses the LEATHERHEAD MUSEUM OF LOCAL HISTORY, funded by the Society.

This much-altered 17th Century cottage opened to visitors in 1980 after very extensive restoration. It showcases some of our large collection of artefacts. The displays have included the Hollis Room which recreated occupants Frank and Hilda's parlour on VE Day 1945; the Ashtead Roman Villa; Saxon archaeology; the structure/evolution of our own Hampton Cottage; our Victorian kitchen and wash-day artefacts. In 2019 we had displays about Ashtead Pottery, World War 1 letters and a retrospective exhibition on the life and work of local artist Anthony Hill.

On sale are the Society's & other publications and souvenirs. Items in the small paved garden include the original Swan from Leatherhead's old Swan Hotel, a 1920s petrol pump and a disused well over 30ft deep.

Admission is **free** but donations are welcome to help run the Museum. School & private visits by arrangement. Step-free access is available into the garden and the rear of the building but internally there are narrow passages and a steep staircase. Every effort will be made to aid access but advance notice is desirable.

Pre-COVID the Museum opened Thursdays & Fridays 1300-1600, Saturdays 1000-1600, April to mid-December. It has recently been sensitively structurally repaired and refurbished. It is to be hoped it may reopen 'during 2021'.

Unseen by visitors is the work by **Society volunteers** on preparing and mounting displays. They maintain the Collection, involving not only conservation but moving artefacts to and from storage, receiving new items.

The Friends of Leatherhead Museum: Volunteers from the Friends help in many ways, practically and financially, with the operation of the Museum. They organise and arrange the rota of Stewards who are on duty whilst the Museum is open for visitors. On other occasions they undertake outreach activities when the "Museum" goes out to schools when invited.

They help with publicity and have regularly organised and run the very successful 'Craft Days' specifically for children (and parents!) at holiday times.

The Friends help with such matters as providing advice and finance to purchase special display equipment or other items that enhance the visitor's experience at the Museum.

Some people join just to keep in touch and follow progress.

To also join the Friends, or renew your Friends' subscription, you may use the attached form. The 'Friends of the Museum' does not have charitable status and so L&DLHS's Gift Aid claim excludes FoLM subscriptions.

Have you considered leaving a lasting bequest, a gift or legacy to our History Society in your memory from your personal estate? If you or your representative would like to discuss this please contact the Chairman.

We hope you will support us and the Leatherhead Museum by joining us/renewing your membership. Please (1) keep this page for reference (2) complete and return the attached Membership form with your payment.

The Leatherhead & District Local History Society – a Charitable Incorporated Organisation ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL SUBSCRIPTION FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 Dec 2021

** First member in household £10 (includes Quarterly Newsletter) - reduced rate for 2021 only **
Other adults in household £6 each; Full-time Student £6.

If you wish to be a Friend of Leatherhead Museum (FoLM): first in household £3, others £2.

If your business might be interested in corporate membership please contact us

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Notes: You must pay an amount of income tax or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax we reclaim on the payments. You can cancel this declaration at any time by notifying the L&DLHS. Please notify the L&DLHS if you change your name or address. If you pay tax at the higher rate you may be able to claim further tax relief via your Self-Assessment tax return.

claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.