

**APPLICATION TO JOIN THE  
HISTORY OF READING SOCIETY  
OR RENEW SUBSCRIPTION (2022)**

Name(s):.....

Address:.....

.....

.....

Telephone Number:.....

Email (use of email reduces costs to the Society):

.....

I give permission for the History of Reading Society to contact me by the following methods

- Email
- Post
- Telephone

Date:.....

Subscription enclosed:..... (£9 per person)

..... (donation)

..... (total)

(Cheques payable to History of Reading Society)

Please tick if you will be paying by Standing Order (this is preferable as there are no bank charges related to this method)

Please email [historyofreadingsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:historyofreadingsociety@yahoo.com) for payment information

The Society was founded in 1978 by a group of enthusiasts anxious to keep the history of Reading alive and before the public.

Our object is to cultivate an interest in the history of Reading and the surrounding area, and to bring together a collection of artefacts and documents which shall be made available to future generations. These are to be placed in a recognised local repository.

We welcome new members to our Society, no special knowledge required, just an interest in the area and its inhabitants past and present. Visitors are also welcome to our meetings for a small fee per meeting attended.

We meet on the third Wednesday of the month (although visit dates may vary). Talks start at 7.30pm. In August we have no meeting and June and July's meetings are outings only available to paid up members. In winter, December-February, we meet via Zoom, and if we are unable to meet face to face. Zoom meetings are only available to paid up members.

We welcome donations of Reading and Berkshire local history and interest books for our booksales. All proceeds go to the Society.

Please keep your eyes open for booksale dates on our monthly posters displayed at libraries and select outlets, and our website.

# *THE HISTORY OF READING SOCIETY*



## **MEMBERSHIP FORM AND PROGRAMME 2022**

*We meet in the Abbey Baptist Church,  
Abbey Square 7pm for a 7.30pm start  
(rear of the Central Library in Kings Road)  
or via Zoom (December-February)*

*If you are interested in the history of the Reading area, why not come and join us? You will be most welcome*

**For further details please phone:-  
David Cliffe (Chairman) on 0118 948 3354  
Malcolm Summers (Treasurer) on 07883 025606  
Vicki Chesterman (Secretary) on 07776 340923**

Find us at [www.historyofreadingsociety.org.uk](http://www.historyofreadingsociety.org.uk) and on Facebook

## PROGRAMME

2022

- 19 Jan **A BRIEF HISTORY OF READING GAOL**  
Mark Stevens (**ZOOM**)  
*Mark Stevens is County Archivist for Berkshire. He has published two books on 19th century mental health: 'Broadmoor Revealed' and 'Life in the Victorian Asylum', the latter is based on the Fair Mile Hospital in Cholsey*
- 16 Feb **A TALE OF TWO WINDOWS – GEORGIAN READING FROM A VISUAL ASPECT**  
John Missenden (**ZOOM**)  
*John is active in the Reading Civic Society and is currently a member of the Reading Conservation Area Advisory Committee and the Oxford Diocesan Committee for the Care of Churches*
- 16 Mar **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** followed by **THE HISTORY OF READING HOSPITALS**  
Lionel Williams  
*Lionel came to Reading as Chief Medical photographer at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, and is now secretary of the Berkshire Medical Heritage Centre*
- 20 Apr **HENRY I AND HIS ABBEY: WHY READING, WHY 1121 AND WHY THE CLUNIACS?**  
Lindsay Mullaney  
*Lindsay is best known as the former proprietor of Caversham Bookshop. Since retirement in 2004, she has undertaken extensive research on the Abbey, Henry I, and his daughter Matilda, leading to her book 'Henry I and his Abbey'*

- 18 May **THE BLACK ARTS IN READING: THE STORY OF OUR LOCAL PRINTING INDUSTRY**  
Paul Joyce  
*Paul spent his working life in the print industry and is an author, speaker and contributor of railway history for Back Track magazine*
- June & July **VISITS** - Details will be published in the Society's Newsletter, on the Society website ([www.historyofreadingsociety.org.uk](http://www.historyofreadingsociety.org.uk)), nearer the date
- 21 Sept **SPENCER SLINGSBY STALLWOOD (1844-1922) – CENTENARY REFLECTIONS**  
John Dearing  
*John is Vice-Chair of HoRS and has published books on aspects of Reading's history*
- 19 Oct **SAILMAKING IN READING**  
Evelyn Williams and Richard Stainthorp  
*Evelyn is a local history author and speaker who has previously given talks on Reading's industrial heritage  
Richard is a former Mayor of Reading with interests in heritage, arts and education*
- 16 Nov **A ROAD OF DISTINCTION – A NOBLE ROAD IN READING: SOUTHCOTE ROAD**  
Anne Green Jessel  
*Anne is a keen historian, with a special interest in lost lidos. She played a prominent role in saving the Kings Meadow Baths in Reading*
- 14 Dec Presidential Address: **EARLEY IN THE 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY**  
Joan Dils (**ZOOM**)  
*Joan has long been interested in the history of the Borough. She recently wrote 'Reading: a history'. She is currently the President of the Society.*

### ALL WILL BE MOST WELCOME AT OUR PHYSICAL MEETINGS

However, a small charge (currently £2) per meeting is made for non-members. If a meeting is held on Zoom, only members can attend, which is the same for any visits we arrange.

Annual Subscription rate for 2022  
£9 per person

Please return membership form to (include cheque if not paying by Standing Order or bank transfer) :

Malcolm Summers  
1 Downs Way  
Tilehurst  
Reading RG31 6SL