

**APPLICATION TO JOIN THE
HISTORY OF READING SOCIETY
OR RENEW SUBSCRIPTION (2025)**

Name(s):.....

Address:.....

.....

.....

Telephone Number:.....

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

.....

I consent to the History of Reading Society
holding my personal information

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/Bank Transfer (this is preferable as there are
no bank charges related to this method)

Please email 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.

The Society produces three newsletters a year for
our members.

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

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

***THE HISTORY OF
READING SOCIETY***



**MEMBERSHIP FORM AND
PROGRAMME 2025**

*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 and on
Facebook

PROGRAMME

2025

- 15 Jan **PHOTO QUIZ (ZOOM)**
Vicki Chesterman
Vicki is secretary of HoRS. How many places do you recognise in historic Reading? Test your New Year Brain!
- 19 Feb **LIVING THROUGH THE CIVIL WAR: THE IMPACT ON THE PEOPLE IN AND AROUND READING (ZOOM)**
Catherine Sampson
Catherine, a local historian and Chair of BFHS, will be describing living conditions at this time.
- 19 Mar **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** followed by **BIG LITTLE HOUSES – DELLWOOD, THE LAURELS AND KENTWOOD HOUSE**
Katie Amos
Katie who is lead librarian at Reading Central Library will tell the history of these properties and their owners.
- 16 Apr **JANE AUSTEN'S FIRST CHRISTMAS**
Joy Pibworth
This year is the 250th anniversary of Jane Austen's birth. An active member of the Jane Austen Society, Joy will give an insight into national and global events during the first months of her life.
- 21 May **TILES FOR THE ABBEY: A MEDIEVAL TILERY AND OCCUPATION AT 40-68 SILVER STREET, READING**
David Sanchez
David is from Thames Valley Archaeological Services will reveal a fascinating hidden history in Silver Street.
- 18 June* **READING FOOTBALL CLUB** tour with David Downs

16 July* **HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, READING**
Visit with Ron Cutting

***Summer guided walks and visits –
for members only**

17 Sept **150 YEARS OF JACKSONS CORNER!**
Thomas Macey
Thomas, who was one of the last employees, will give a talk to celebrate this special anniversary of Reading's well known department store.

15 Oct **THE HILL FAMILY AND THE READING CONNECTION**
Duncan Mackay
Duncan is author of a book about Arthur Hill's family will describe how the National Trust was set up.

19 Nov **Presidential Address: VOICES OF READING: ASPECTS OF LIFE IN THE 'LONG 18TH CENTURY'**
Joan Dils
Our president Joan Dils will use diaries, letters, newspaper reports and court records as sources of what real life was like at this time.

17 Dec **EMMER GREEN CHALK TUNNELS (ZOOM)**
Robin Kent
Find out about this mysterious underground location in Reading.

**ALL WILL BE MOST WELCOME AT OUR
FACE TO FACE 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

*Annual Subscription rate for 2025 (1st Jan – 31st Dec)
£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