

Bawtry Heritage Group

Notes of meeting on 10th December 2024

1 Present/Apologies

Present - Mick Maguire, John Linsley, David Kirkham, Mike White, Peter Holland
Apologies – Rupert Atkinson

2 Matters arising from 12th November meeting

Bawtry Men killed in WW1 – MM gave DK a poster depicting some photos of those men – ideally for inclusion on the website.

UKMDD – still no response re a new date to meet.

Wharf lectern – now delivered; looks good. Awaiting installation.

Roman Bawtry desktop update – MM on track to complete the 2nd part of Stage 2 by the end of next week.

Whiston Heritage Group request for a presentation by BHG – they have requested “Bawtry – A Norman Planted Town” – date 4 Nov 2025. Dk & MM.

3 DDHA Local History Fair

PH & DK gave feedback. We received £4.50 for book sales – MM to pass half to BCL. Disappointingly low footfall. DDHA will consider future venue options – we have already made comments/suggestions & should input to discussion when it occurs.

4 Planning Application close to area of Roman interest

MM proposed comment by BHG; agreed he will submit. DK to liaise with David Hornsby.

5 Battle of the Idle lectern / Sutton Hoo Society

SHAS has granted us £2085 for a lectern on Gainsborough Road near the bridge. They do not, however, want the plaque on the bridge. Agreed BHG may consider that later. Agreed we ought to aim for the lectern – plus its cousin at BCL – to be installed by the time of Bawtry Festival – which means we have to have planning permission & lectern content by the end of February 2025.

MM to draft content for the two lecterns & circulate. DK to advise re number of words on basis of wharf experience.

MM to draft new SYHL submission in the new year.

6 Miss Everard daybook

Many thanks to RA for visiting Oxfam in Canterbury to view the book. He was impressed & thought it was worth the gamble to purchase. Oxfam then gave us a deadline to decide –

not unreasonably. MM & DK agreed with the gamble, & we therefore purchased the book - £150. We also purchased a reference book (>£12) about works similar to Everard's book "Flowers from Nature", which referenced Everard's work. The "daybook" is actually an album, to which a number of individuals, including Everard, have contributed between the 1820s & around 1880. Sadly there is almost no biographical information, nor any reference to Anne Everard's work as a teacher or schools. It appears to be mostly copies of prose & poetry composed by 19th century authors, although there may be some original work too. There are also a few good quality watercolours, plus smaller illustrations.

DK has researched Anne Everard & found significant info about her Wharf St school in the 1830s, although no info about an earlier one. Also examples advertisements by her for the book "Flowers from Nature". Also a similar book published by another teacher – "Miss Smith" - at an Adwick school for young ladies in 1817. That school's offering, and Miss Smith's book, are remarkably similar to Anne Everard's school offering & book. Did Anne Everard know Miss Smith? Maybe she (Anne) was a pupil at the Adwick School? Bears further research. The last reference to Anne Everard & her school is in 1841. She married in 1844 & records of her later history show no involvement in teaching or any further book publication. MM is pursuing possible sources of further info about Anne Everard. One possibility is a history of 19th century private schools in Doncaster held by CDC Archives.

We agreed the AE story – as a pioneering teacher & author – may be one with which Bawtry residents can readily connect. They can see the building in which the school was located, we can show them the curriculum & names of the students, & we can show them AE's album. Agreed it should be the subject of an exhibition in time for Bawtry Festival week, which gives us time for further research.

7 BCL – BHG display facility

BCL has offered us the use of their computer room for use as a Heritage Centre, although it will retain 4 computer desks & use for the Post Office counter on scheduled days. This instead of our existing display area. Agreed this was a very generous offer by BCL - & a signal achievement by MM in negotiating it. Agreed we must create & maintain high quality professional displays in the space, augmented by local history lecterns outside. Discussed detail of how we would use the space, & re furniture/fittings. MW advised the Mens' Group will help with the latter. Might cost us up to £500. Agreed we should aim for a major display in the new space for Bawtry Festival week – the subject being Anne Everard.

8 AOB

None

9 Next meeting

Tuesday 14th Jan 2025 – New Hall – 18.30

Major agenda item to be future BHG funding.