

Welford and Weston Local History Society

www.welfordandweston.org.uk

Newsletter 64 – August 23rd ,2020

Hooray!! Our new Season of talks starts in September *Hooray!!*

Yes, a new Season has arrived and with it a new way of presenting our talks. As a result of Coronavirus, we cannot meet and mingle in the Memorial Hall. So instead, you will for the time being, be able to enjoy the meeting from the comfort of your own home. We'll go back to meeting in the Memorial Hall when the restrictions are lifted and it is deemed safe to do so. Until then we shall be using Zoom.

At the beginning of July we sent a questionnaire to all our members who have email addresses and access to the internet, asking 1) whether you would join a Zoom meeting, 2) whether you already had experience of using Zoom and 3) whether you would like our Zoom Leviathan (Karen Dickinson) to show you how it works. A large majority of our members responded that they would join a WWLHS Zoom meeting. Of these the majority said they already had some experience of using Zoom, and needed no assistance. That's one of the few positive outcomes of the Coronavirus. More and more of us are using Zoom (or an equivalent product) in connection with other activities that we are involved in.

During the remainder of July and into August, Karen has provided excellent tuition to those who had asked for it. As I write this newsletter, there is still time to ask Karen to help you, if you're feeling unsure and nervous about using something you may not be used to. Please contact her on 07970 179821, or email, karen@mflp.co.uk.

So that should take care of those members who have access to the internet. What about the remaining, fewer than 10, who have no connection? We think there are two ways in which they could still take part in these meetings.

The first is using the phone and would be audio only. This approach is already used successfully by the local church for it's weekly Zoom meetings. You will not be able to see anybody, which some people might think is a good thing, but will be able to hear. Calls are charged at standard rate, which should be free, if you have inclusive minutes included in your landline or mobile tariff.

*The second approach involves taking advantage of the situation where members have two or more devices, at home, which could be used for Zoom. Perhaps they would be prepared to host a visitor for the duration of the meeting and have that person, socially distanced, using the second device. *If you fall into this category, I would be very grateful if you could give me a call . (750716)**

I'm delighted to say that at the time of writing this Newsletter, over 80 members have already renewed their membership for the new Season. Thank you for your continued

support of our Society. Without you there would be no WWLHS. Can I ask that the few remaining folk who haven't yet renewed, but who want to watch these talks, please renew as soon as possible? It still costs just £5 per person for the whole Season. A bargain! You will need to renew your membership, in order to be sent the Invite to join the Zoom meeting.

All our planned speakers, bar one, have confirmed that they will be prepared to switch to the Zoom method. We have already substituted that speaker in the Programme. Our very own John Harris will be giving the substituted talk in November.

The first talk, in September, is described in more detail in Newsletter 65, which will be sent out shortly. The second talk, in October, is the one that was postponed from March when we went into lock down. Here's the full programme.

25th September 2020

Historic Warwickshire Gardens, in the time of Sir Fulke Greville (1554-1628)

Speaker... Dr. Christine Hodgetts

30th October 2020

From the Pillory to the Prison Cell

Speaker... Ginny Davis

27th November 2020

"So you think you know Stratford?"

Speaker John Harris

29th January 2021

Warwickshire: Historic Environment Record

Speaker..... Ben Wallace

26th March 2021

The Great Fire of Warwick 1694

Speaker ... Dr. Gillian White

To renew your membership, just visit our website at www.welfordandweston.org.uk and click on the quick link to Membership, and then follow the instructions under Existing Members.

Looking forward to seeing you again on Friday, 25th September.

Best wishes, Brad Plimmer, Chair, Welford & Weston Local History Society