



Newsletter – December 2016

(www.lbdahs.org.uk)

The year 2017 promises to be interesting – both internationally and for the Society. We have a number of exciting projects coming to fruition plus our usual talks and events.

In the last few months we have mounted two exhibitions at the library and as a result have been invited to use the library display cases to show some of the many artefacts the society has been given. With no museum, at least some of the town's past will be seen.

We had a jolly and rewarding day at the Bucks Family History Fair at Aylesbury in July, selling books and old photographs, where we made a number of new contacts. Some of these have been very helpful with our current major project the World War One history of the town. This book has reached a critical phase, since all the copy and photographs have to be delivered to the publisher by March 31. Please start saving up to buy a copy in October when we hope to have a publication party.

Following a grant of £1,000 from the Town Council a group has been working on dating 17 Hockliffe Street, one of the few remaining timber buildings in the town. We have found out so much new information that as well as holding an exhibition of our findings (as we promised the council we would do) we are going to publish a small book.

The group, which has been transcribing 54 documents relating to the now demolished Sandhouse coaching inn on the A5 at Heath and Reach, is also moving towards publication of a history of this fascinating place. It contains a Dickensian saga of family intrigue amid the excitement of a coaching inn on the main road to London.

We have finally finished digitising Tom Lawson's slides – more than a thousand of them – and have another film show in production for our AGM meeting in April.

On the subject of films, we have recently had an offer of several cine films of Leighton Linslade in the 1920s and 30s. This collection has connections to Oliver Pike, the subject of one of our publications. We are planning a trip to another country to pick them up as soon as possible. Our hope is to show them to Society members at one of our autumn meetings.

Our programme is with this newsletter but the final talk in May on Woburn is followed in June by a guided walk around the village. The date has yet to be arranged but it promises to be an interesting venture.

Transactions 11, to be published as usual at the AGM, will contain a number of new discoveries about the town's history. Happy New Year.

Paul Brown, Chairman