



The Somerset & Dorset Family History Society

Registered Charity 1010351

Broadway House, Peter St
Yeovil, Somerset BA20 1PN

Annual General Meeting 28 September 2024

This year's AGM will be a relatively low-key affair, but members will be able to visit the Society's Family History Centre in the morning. The Centre will also be open on Sunday morning to give those travelling/staying overnight more opportunity to use our facilities.

PROGRAMME

Saturday 28 September.

10.00 am - 1.00 pm. The SDFHS Family History Centre in Peter Street will be open.

2.00 pm. AGM venue opens. This will be in the upstairs meeting room of the Yeovil Labour Club. There is a stair lift for any member requiring it.

IMPORTANT: THE VENUE REQUIRES ADVANCE NOTICE OF PERSONS ATTENDING. PLEASE INFORM THE SDFHS SECRETARY IF YOU INTEND TO BE THERE, USING THE EMAIL ADDRESS contact@sdfhs.org AND PUT 'AGM 2024' IN THE SUBJECT LINE.

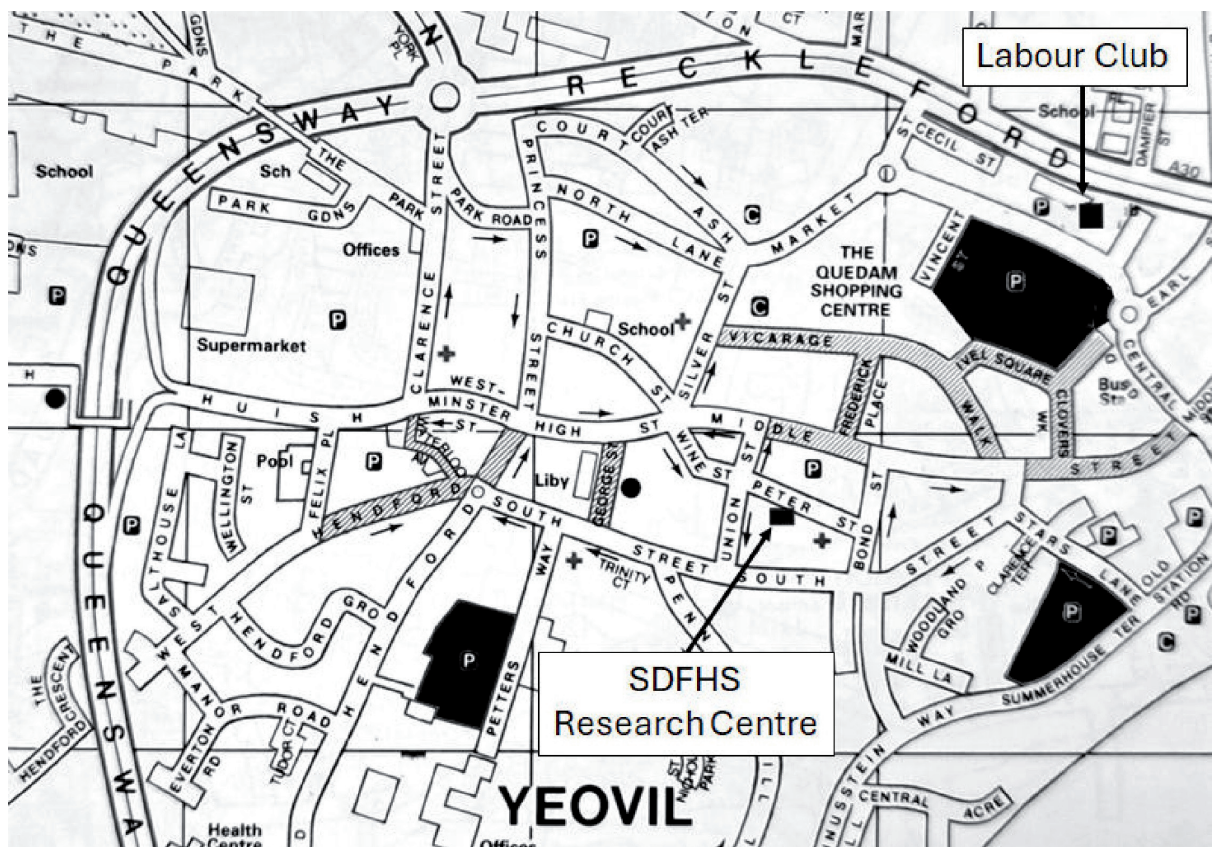
2.30 pm. AGM (see p.3 for the Agenda)

3.30 pm. Talk by Jeremy Graham, *Horseless Carriage to Helicopter (via Low Earth Orbit): a short history of Westland.*

Sunday 29 September.

10.00 am - 1.00 pm. SDFHS Family History Centre open.

For a map and directions, see p.2.



DIRECTIONS

By car.

The Yeovil Labour Club (Central Road, Yeovil, BA20 1JL) is within the small Earle St car park. It is directly opposite the entrance to the Quedam multi-story car park and Yeovil Bus Station and is only a short walk from the SDFHS Family History Centre in Peter Street. There are other car parks within easy walking distance (see map). Please note that the car park opposite our Centre is only short-stay (max 1 hour). Yeovil town centre offers many coffee shops, restaurants, and takeaway food shops.

By public transport.

The 68 bus runs between both Yeovil Junction station (on the main Waterloo/Exeter line) and Yeovil Pen Mill Station (trains from Bath, Bristol, Gloucester, Weymouth) and the Central Bus Station. Alight at the Bus Station and the Labour Club is just across the road.



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Yeovil, Somerset BA20 1PN

The Annual General Meeting

To be held on **Saturday 28 September 2024**
At **The Labour Club, Central Road, Yeovil, BA20 1JL**

AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the 48th AGM (held at Weymouth)
4. Matters Arising
5. Chairman's Report
6. Treasurer's Report and 2023 Accounts*
7. Membership Fees
8. Appointment of Examiners
9. Election of Officers and Executive Committee
10. Nominations for Vice Presidents and Life Members
11. Closure of Business

* Summary Accounts for 2023 can be found on pp.6-7. The Trustees' Report for 2023 and the full Accounts for 2023 can be downloaded from the Home Page of the Society's website: <https://sdfhs.org>

Item 7. Membership Fees

Over the past several years, the cost of posting the SDFHS journal has increased dramatically. The SDFHS last increased Membership fees in 2014. The Executive Committee has therefore decided to propose an increase in Membership Fees for 2025.

Proposal: That the SDFHS increase membership fees as follows:

UK and Overseas

Electronic: £15 (no print journal). The current rate is £15

All the subscription rates below include four printed journals each year.

UK

1 year individual: £20. The current rate is £18

3 years individual: £56. The current rate is £50

1 year family: £22. The current rate is £20

3 years family: £62. The current rate is £56

Overseas

1 year individual: £25. The current rate is £22

3 years family: £71. The current rate is £62

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023

The Society has no paid employees and is run entirely by volunteers from among its members. The ground floor of Broadway House was incorporated into the Society's Research Centre early in 2023 and opened to the public in July. This area has given the Society much improved visibility, and visitor numbers have increased markedly in comparison with 2022, although this has yet to have any major impact on Membership numbers. Requests for research continue to come in and, although their volume remains low, many of them involved more in-depth research than previously. Most meetings of the Society's Trustees continue to be held using internet connection, but the Society's regional groups within the two counties have largely reverted to face-to-face meetings. The "out of counties" groups continue to operate both in the UK and overseas, and the Society is looking at ways in which further activities can be encouraged. The Society's quarterly journal "The Greenwood Tree" is regarded as one of the Society's major assets under the Editorship of Paul Radford.

Updates to the Society's website have been relatively minor during 2023, as the Executive Committee examines the relative merits of various ways forward. The online shop has continued to prove to be very popular with members: income from book sales increased during 2023, and the shop provides options for the payment of subscriptions, booking events, making donations and paying Research Fees securely. Social media activity continues with a Twitter account, a Facebook Page and a very active Facebook Group.

Volunteers continue to work on Projects that will be useful to researchers, with some data being placed online. It is hoped that some Society data will be available to members through the Society's website in the future. The Photographic Project is still adding to its collection of images of people and places associated with both Counties.

FINANCIAL REVIEW INVESTMENT POLICY AND RESERVES

Income for the year amounted to £44,590 (2022 - £65,597) of which £21,035 (2022 - £43,468) came from subscriptions (see accounting policies for change in when subscriptions are recognised), £6,625 (2022 - £6,218) from services offered by the society and £2,814 (2022- £6,414) from bequests and donations. The charity incurred total expenditure of £57,310 (2022 - £44,812) giving a net decrease in funds of £12,720 (2022 – increase of £20,785).

A revaluation of the library was undertaken in 2022 to establish the veracity of the value of its contents as shown in the accounts. Using statistical sampling and validation, an internal valuation was undertaken in July 2022, which revealed that the contents were worth approximately £53,000. After due deliberation, the Executive Committee decided to restrict the increase in value of the library stock to £6,500 in the Accounts, thus showing the asset as less than half its apparent value. The library is therefore currently valued at £24,000. The Trustees have the power to invest the money of the charity not immediately required for its purposes in such investments or property as they think fit. Currently cash reserves are required to meet the day to day needs of the charity and therefore any cash not required for immediate use is held in Charity fund deposit accounts, which give immediate access to these funds.

The Trustees aim to hold sufficient reserves to meet six months operating activity of the charity. As at 31 December 2023 balances held at the bank and on deposit totalled £140,867 of which £67,886 is restricted or has currently been designated for non-general purposes, including a contingency fund of £42,000. The society therefore holds £72,981 in general funds, which covers in excess of one year's operating activities at current levels.

E A Udall

Trustee

Date: 22 March 2024

The Somerset and Dorset Family History Society

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted General Funds	Restricted and designated Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
		£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Subscriptions		21,035	-	21,035	43,468
GiftAid on subscriptions		4,137	-	4,137	3,058
Society services		6,625	-	6,625	6,218
Legacies and donations	9	2,814	-	2,814	6,414
Miscellaneous services		851	-	851	479
Investment income		4,401	-	4,401	930
Books and publications		4,727	-	4,727	5,030
Transfer to income		-	-	-	-
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		44,590	-	44,590	65,597
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Charitable expenditure					
Greenwood Tree costs	3	18,201	-	18,201	16,719
Books and publications	3	2,121	-	2,121	2,448
Society services and projects	3	884	-	884	1,362
Group funding	3	800	-	800	400
Administrative expenses and depreciation (including Governance costs)	3 & 4	35,304	-	35,304	23,883
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	3 & 4	57,310	-	57,310	44,812
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(12,720)	-	(12,720)	20,785
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Fund balances at 1 January 2023		120,017	67,886	187,903	167,118
FUND BALANCES AT 31 DECEMBER 2023		107,297	67,886	175,183	187,903

The Statement of Financial Activities has been prepared on the basis that all operations are continuing operations.

All gains and losses have been dealt with in the above statement.

The notes on pages 12 to 16 of the full accounts form part of these accounts.

The Somerset and Dorset Family History Society

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

for the year ended 31 December 2023

	<i>Notes</i>	Unrestricted General Funds £	Restricted and designated Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	5	24,000	-	24,000	24,000
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	6	8,119	-	8,119	8,556
Debtors	7	2,997	-	2,997	3,009
Cash at bank and in hand		72,981	67,886	140,867	153,311
		84,097	67,886	151,983	164,876
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	8	800	-	800	973
NET CURRENT ASSETS		83,297	67,886	151,183	163,903
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		107,297	67,886	175,183	187,903
ACCUMULATED FUNDS					
General funds		107,297	-	107,297	120,017
Designated funds	9	-	67,886	67,886	67,886
Restricted fund	9	-	-	-	-
	10	107,297	67,886	175,183	187,903

The financial statements on pages 8 to 16 were approved by the Trustees for issue on 22 March 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

I T Gould

Trustee

E A Udall

Trustee

The notes on pages 12 to 16 of the full accounts form part of these accounts

