

Doncaster and District Family History Society

Registered Charity No. 516226

Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 27 April 2022 at 7.30pm
Hybrid Meeting - Castle Park, Doncaster and Zoom

AGENDA

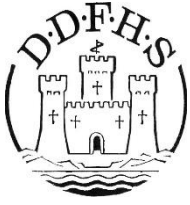
1. Welcome
2. Apologies for absence
3. Approval of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held 28 April 2021
4. Matter Arising
5. To receive the Chairman's Report
6. To receive and approve the audited accounts of the Society
7. To re-appoint Eyre & Co 294 Balby Road, Doncaster DN4 0QF, as Independent Examiners
8. Election of Officers

Chairman	George W Hiley*
Vice Chairman	Andy Harbon#
Secretary	Marion Baxter*
Treasurer	Sheila Cave*
Editor	Jenny Ellis*
Member	Keith Crouter*
Member	John A Humberston*
Member	June Staniforth*

*Re-election, #Election

9. Date of the next Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 26 April 2023

Vice Patron: Archdeacon of Doncaster (Retired); The Ven. R A Fitzharris
President: Derek A Palgrave MA FRHistS FSG



Doncaster and District Family History Society

Registered Charity No. 516226

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 28 April 2021 at 7.30pm Via Zoom

1. Welcome

The Chairman, George Hiley, opened the meeting and welcomed everybody.

Attending: 61

2. Apologies: Geoffrey Hill and Stuart Lockyer.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting 27 February 2019

These were approved as a true record - proposed by Dave Valentine, seconded by Pattie Birch.

3a. Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising.

4. To receive the following Reports:

a. Chairman's Report:

The report was received.

b. Treasurer's Report 2019:

The report was approved - proposed by John Humberston, seconded by Karen Walker.

George Hiley thanked Christine Lockyer for all her work, over many years, as Treasurer.

c. Treasurer's Report 2020:

The report was approved, subject to audit - proposed by John Vessey, seconded by Christine Lockyer.

5. To re-appoint Eyre & Co. 294 Balby Road, Doncaster, DN4 0QF as Independent Examiners:

Eyre & Co were reappointed as Independent Examiners for the 2021 accounts -proposed by Lynn Snowden, seconded by Jenny Ellis

6. Election of Officers

a. Re-elected Unopposed

Chairman	George W Hiley
Editor	Jenny Ellis
Member	Keith Crouter
Member	John Humberston
Member	June Staniforth

Proposed by Pattie Birch, seconded by Ann Berry

b. Elected Unopposed

Secretary	Marion Baxter
Treasurer	Sheila Cave
Projects Organiser	Jon Finegold

Proposed by Stella Vessey, seconded by Keith Crouter

George Hiley concluded the meeting by announcing that:

- the AGM papers would be available in the Members' Area of the Society's website,
- inviting members to take up the vacancies on the Executive Committee and
- thanking the Society's volunteers their work over the year.

Doncaster and District Family History Society

AGM 2022

Chairman's Report

The object of the Society shall be to advance public education in family history and genealogy within the area of interest.

This report covers the activities and services of the Society for the 2021 calendar year.

Last year's AGM was held online via Zoom. This year's AGM has two audiences, one an in-person meeting at Castle Park and another an online meeting, via Zoom. I sense we are beginning to see what the 'new normal' might look like.

Volunteers

As you will read COVID-19 has continued to have an impact on which services we have been able to provide. Due to the work and support of the Society's volunteers we have been able to provide the majority of services, admittedly some using different formats e.g. Zoom for members' meetings and email for research support.

I am sure you would wish to join me in thanking the Society's volunteers for all their endeavours in supporting the work of the Society.

Executive Committee 2021

Chairman	George W Hiley
Vice Chair	Vacant
Secretary	Marion Baxter
Treasurer	Sheila Cave
Editor	Jenny Ellis
Projects Organiser	Jon Finegold
Member	Keith Crouter
Member	John A Humberston
Member	June Staniforth
Member	Andy Harbon (Co-opted 20/05/2021),

Members of the Executive Committees are also Charity Trustees.

<https://register-of-charities.charitycommission.gov.uk/charity-search/-/charity-details/516226/charity-overview>

Computer Group

Co-ordinator: George W Hiley

The Computer Group is a Society self-help group, which focuses on helping you to improve your computer skills and knowledge to assist your family history research. The Group meets most Thursday mornings via Zoom.

Courses

Courses continue to be suspended due to COVID-19.

Doncaster Ancestor

Editor: Jenny Ellis

The Society publishes a quarterly journal, The Doncaster Ancestor. We would welcome your contributions, however small, to your journal. Lack of content may mean we have to consider reducing the number of journals we publish in a year.

Doncaster Ancestor Editions 1980 to 2004, scanned by John A Humberston, were added to the Members' Area of the Society's website in December 2021.

Exchange Journals

Keith Crouter (Print)

George W Hiley (e-Journals)

The Society exchanges its journal with other family history societies:

- e-Journals: 29
- Print versions: 11

The e-Journals are available in the Members' Area of the Society's website.

Fairs:

Acting Fairs Co-ordinator: George W Hiley

Due to COVID-19 there have been no physical fairs, however we have attended a number of online fairs. The organisers give no details as to how many visitors your online stall attracts and our experience, which is similar to other society's, is that the talks, workshops and 'ask the expert' sessions are proving to be more attractive.

Membership

Membership Secretary: Philip Langford

The Society's membership, December 2021, was 548, a net reduction of 5%.
Thank you for continuing with your membership of the Society.

Members' Interests

George W Hiley

Members' Surname Interests are published in the Doncaster Ancestor, in the Members' Area of the Society's website and on the Family History Federation website.

At the end of 2021 there were 981 surnames listed. We encourage you to add and/or update your Surname Interests.

Members' Meetings

Programme Secretary: June Staniforth

Hybrid: Andy Harbon

Zoom: George W Hiley

The average number of registrants for the Zoom meetings was 67, with approximately a third from outside the Doncaster area.

We are planning to trial several hybrid meetings in 2022, where members will have the option to attend in person (Roomers) or online via Zoom (Zoomers).

Suggestions as to speakers and subjects are always welcome.

Other Organisations

Representative: George W Hiley

The Society is a member of the following umbrella organisations:

- Doncaster and District Heritage Association
- Family History Federation
- Yorkshire Group of Family History Societies

Projects

Projects Organiser: Jon Finegold

The transcribing team have enabled 11 new or updated Downloads to be published.

Work is progressing on transcribing marriages for Doncaster St George.

Transcribing the Area Health Authority records is on hold pending the reopening of the Doncaster Archives.

Research Enquiry Service

Co-ordinator: Trevor Betterton

The Research Enquiry Service is primarily a FREE “look-up” service and is limited to one surname search of the Society’s 1.5 million transcriptions database. Any additional research is at the discretion of the Society’s Research Enquiries Co-ordinator.

<https://doncasterfhs.co.uk/research-enquiry-service/>

Research Facility

Research Facility Co-ordinator: Trevor Betterton

Volunteers (Research Facility) Co-ordinator: June Staniforth

The Society is looking forward to joining the Doncaster Archives and Local Studies in a new research facility in the old museum building on Chequer Road, Doncaster in 2022.

Sales

Lynn Snowden

Almost all sales in 2021 were downloads via GenFair. Sales have been fairly consistent over the year, the lowest being in June, which appears to happen most years.

Social Media

Marion Baxter and Andy Harbon

The engagement, both members and non-members, with Facebook and Twitter has grown over the year.

Year	Facebook		Twitter	
	Likes	Following	Followers	Following
2021	815	910	785	1,096

Not sure social media is for you, why not give it a go by clicking on the links below:



<https://en-gb.facebook.com/pages/category/Community-Organization/Doncaster-District-Family-History-Society-691950160885846/>



<https://twitter.com/danddfhs>

Society Archives and Libraries

Archivist and Librarian: Keith Crouter

The majority of the Society's Lending and Reference Libraries' books continue to be stored in a Cheshire salt mine.

Website

Website Co-ordinator: George W Hiley

Year	Unique Visitors	Visits	Pages	Pages/ Visit
2021	31,887	52,557	396,172	7.54

Visitors are accessing more pages per visit.

The members' area of the Society's website gives you access to the following additional pages:

- The Computer Group
- The Doncaster Ancestor
- Other Societies e-Journals
- Lending Library Index
- Members' Surname Interests

If you have yet to register for a user account please contact the Membership Secretary
ddfsmemberships@doncasterfhs.co.uk

In conclusion, due to the success of the COVID-19 vaccination programme, we are very optimistic that we will be able to re-establish in person activities i.e. a research facility and members' meetings.

Best wishes for your research and take care.

George
chairman@doncasterfhs.co.uk

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Receipts and Payments Account for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

	2021 £	2020 £
Receipts		
Subscriptions	4,846.48	5,008.44
Sale of Publications	1,696.60	1,529.48
Find My Past Royalties	1,732.36	1,828.21
Donations	46.00	97.00
Gift Aid Tax Refund	1,681.52	928.70
Members Meetings:		
Admission Charges	-	6.00
Raffles	-	39.00
Society Fair 2020 Bookings	-	240.50
Building Society Interest	65.15	234.29
Business Rates Refund	-	55.56
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	10,068.11	9,967.18
Payments		
Members Meetings:		
Room hire	-	82.50
Zoom Speakers	420.00	165.00
Administration Expenses:		
Postage and Stationery	34.38	79.82
Advertising	30.00	27.00
Business All Risks Insurance	237.57	369.28
Refunds:		
Society Fair 2021 Bookings	32.40	448.10
Subscriptions	10.00	10.00
Sales	1.00	-
Doncaster Ancestor	3,433.56	3,204.53
Repairs & Renewals	77.81	-
Computer Software, Website etc	317.72	855.15
Research Room Hire Charges	-	504.69
Subscriptions: FHF, D&DHA, YGoFHS	229.26	277.82
Accountancy Charges	192.00	192.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5,015.70	6,215.89
Excess of Receipts over Payments	5,052.41	3,751.29
Opening Cash and Bank Balances	74,166.17	70,414.88
Closing Cash and Bank Balances	<hr/> 79,218.58 <hr/>	<hr/> 74,166.17 <hr/>

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31 December 2021

	2021		2020	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets at Cost				
Furniture & Equipment				
as at 1 January 2021	-		160.00	
<i>plus</i> additions	-		-	
<i>less</i> items scrapped/written o	-		-	
<i>less</i> depreciation	-		- 160.00	
		-		-
Microfiche etc				
as at 1 January 2021	1,275.21		1,275.21	
<i>plus</i> additions	-		-	
<i>less</i> items scrapped/written o	-		-	
<i>less</i> depreciation	-		-	
	1,275.21		1,275.21	
		1,275.21		1,275.21
Current Assets				
Stock of publications	300.10		309.10	
Sundry Debtors	335.46		270.19	
Payments in advance	-		-	
Cash and Bank Balances	79,218.58		74,166.17	
	79,854.14		74,745.46	
	81,129.35		76,020.67	
Liabilities				
Sundry creditors	-		32.40	
	<u>81,129.35</u>		<u>75,988.27</u>	

Doncaster and District Family History Society

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT

For the year ended 31 December 2021

1. **Stock of Publications, Microfiche, CDs etc** are valued at cost.
2. **Sundry Debtors** relate to December 2021 receipts due from Findmypast and GenFair.
3. **Reserves Policy**

The Society's reserves at the end of 2021 were £81,129.35.

The Executive Committee consider it is essential that a level of reserves exist that will enable them to address the following:

- the availability of a research facility,
- the acquisition and digitisation of research material,
- renewal of old and out-of-date equipment, software etc., and
- the reduction in income from falling membership.