

Chesterfield & District Family History Society
Est 1989

2023 Annual General Meeting [AGM]

Chair Report Dena Fanshawe

I would like to welcome everyone and thank you for coming along to our 34th Annual General Meeting. It is your meeting and an opportunity for you to meet each other and to find out what is happening within your society.

It has been a busy year for your committee, meeting every month for the committee and monthly meetings themselves and all the unseen work that goes on behind the scenes. Therefore I want to say thank you to each and everyone of you all for your hard work this year.

Our monthly meetings have been well attended and I myself think we have had some really interesting topics and pleased to announce that there is more to come before the end of the year. In November we are being joined by celebrity genealogist Janet Few with one of her talks called, 'Sons of the Soil'. And in December another very special speaker who in Australia is a very well known children's Author, Natalie Prior, has the fascinating story of how many families including her own that left Balinlass in Galway in Ireland during the famine and came through Chesterfield before ending up in Australia. So get them both in your diaries

I also want to say many thanks to all of our meeting attendees for their patience as we have continued to be plagued with rogue issues that are never the same ones which is amazing in itself. We sort one issue out only to be thrown another to test us, we will endeavour of course to get it right for you.

Talking of challenges it is becoming more difficult to find new and interesting speakers that are affordable as the cost of the speakers has escalated. We can however keep the cost down by having online speakers so no mileage is included and of course we can have speakers from anywhere as we are not geographically restricted.

Member's weekly Wednesday afternoons

I would like to thank those who have ever attended this group as they have given so much of themselves to it and have been so helpful and enabled us to add extra items to our website.

I think the success of the group is solely due to those present who are willing to share their knowledge helping others and have presented so many unbelievable opportunities by helping each other with their research and helping with those brick walls and much more.

The group has also been influential in many ways to the benefit of the society, for example by suggesting new speakers, and the new projects like the ones being rolled out at the moment.

It is a relaxed session with the topics guided by those present and are so wide and varied, always very interesting and there is always something new to learn.

One member of the group has said they have met and formed friendships which without this group, they would never have met, this has echoed around the group.

Finally we will be voting soon for your officers and committee and I have to reinforce what a brilliant team we have and thank them for standing again this year. We do also have some new members who are willing to stand, and thank them too and last but not least I would like to say thank you to all for your part in the society.

