



**Derbyshire Victoria County  
History Trust  
Electronic newsletter  
Number 1 – Spring 2023**

**Welcome to our first electronic newsletter**

Dear supporter

This is the first electronic newsletter. Our old newsletter format, last published in December 2022, has changed into this newsletter which is sent out electronically. We also send hard copies out by post to those of you who still wish to receive these.

Changing to this format is less resource heavy as it isn't as 'designed' as the old newsletter. As you will read it carries news from the central VCH office and other organisations, as they apply to VCH. We will also cover other news if we think it might be of interest to our members and supporters.

We hope you find this format interesting and accessible. Let us know your thoughts by emailing [publicity@derbyshirevch.org](mailto:publicity@derbyshirevch.org).

Our thanks for your support.

**Hyperlinks**

For those not 'in the know' hyperlinks are links embedded into text which should automatically open websites when clicked. They are highlighted in this e-News in blue like this example here - <https://derbyshirevch.org/>. To use them simply hover your computer cursor over the coloured text, press down 'Ctrl' on your keyboard and click at the same time. This will then open the linked website. If you are using a tablet or smart phone it is even easier. Just touch the coloured text with your finger.

**Publications update**

**1- Current work**

Work is currently being undertaken on draft text for the next VCH spin-off book – on Wingerworth – which we hope to launch during 2023. This should then be followed by a volume covering both Calow and Temple Normanton.

Work on Wingerworth has recently progressed quickly mainly due to the efforts of David Edwards, who drafted a considerable amount of text some years ago. This has been added to by our volunteer group along with research by our county editor at The National Archives, Kew. Philip Riden identified a considerable amount of new material at Kew and has been visiting to examine this previously unused source. The papers relate to a number of Chancery cases, which reveal more about Wingerworth and other Chesterfield townships. This is new information, not previously identified.

## 2 - Hasland book sell-out

Our Hasland book has sold out and we only have a few copies of 'Chesterfield Streets and Houses' left.

## 3 - VCH Volume III available

The original publishers of our VCH Volume III (Bolsover and adjacent parishes) – Boydell & Brewer – decided to remainder copies of the book last year. The Trust decided to purchase all remaining copies from them and are now able to offer these at £60 plus postage and packing. For further information email our treasurer at [treasurer@derbyshirevch.org](mailto:treasurer@derbyshirevch.org).

## Volunteer group news

Our Chesterfield volunteer group has been somewhat reinvigorated by new members. Our thanks and a warm (if somewhat belated) welcome to them. A thank you, too, to all our volunteers, some of whom who have been with our Chesterfield group since the beginning.

We meet in term time at Chesterfield Library (lower New Beetwell Street entrance to the meeting rooms suite), from 7 pm until 9 pm, every Wednesday in term times. If you fancy joining us, please get in-touch with our County Editor to confirm times and dates, particularly as we'll be taking a break over Easter.

## BALH

The Trust is a member of the British Association for Local History (BALH). They have an interesting website, including a regular blog. For more information visit <https://www.balh.org.uk>.

## DRO blogs

Whilst on the subject of blogs, we'd recommend you follow the Derbyshire Record Office one. Not surprisingly it contains much of interest to the local and family history community in the county. Head to <https://recordoffice.wordpress.com/> and have a look.

## And Derbyshire VCH too

We also have a regular blog – which we publish about twice a month. Here's a list of our most recent ones:

[An early attempt at steel making in Chesterfield?](#)

[Wingerworth and its Lido railway](#)

[Gas for commercial vehicles in the 1930s](#)

[The Oxcroft Settlement](#)

[Sit awhile and remember Fred Kitchen](#)

(If you are reading a hard copy of this eNews, find all these blogs via our website 'home page' - <https://derbyshirevch.org/>).

We concentrate on areas where VCH has either carried out research, or where work is in progress. Therefore, our blogs mainly cover the north-eastern part of the county. Subjects are normally selected by our publicity officer. The blogs might then be edited extracts from our publications, or may be new work. Sometimes our blogs might be about subjects where there has been some confusion locally – an example being a blog about Chesterfield's railway stations (<https://derbyshirevch.org/2022/11/>).

Occasionally we also have guest bloggers. If you are interested in contributing, please get in touch with our publicity officer.

You can also follow us on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/DerbyshireVCH> and on our Twitter account (@VCH\_Derbyshire), though we don't tend to post much to the latter.

## **News from the VCH central office**

We'll keep you up-to-date with national developments in this section.

### **1 - New VCH Architectural Editor: Dr Ruth Slatter**

From May 2023 [Dr Ruth Slatter](#) will be Lecturer in Historic Environment & Knowledge Exchange Manager at the Institute of Historical Research. As part of this role she will be the VCH's architectural editor.

### **2 - VCH Day: Wednesday 10 May, 2023**

There's a 'VCH Day' at Senate House, University of London, on Wednesday 10 May, 2023. This will be the first proper VCH community get-together since the Covid pandemic. The full programme will be confirmed soon, but it will begin with a buffet lunch. Afternoon sessions will include general VCH news and updates, presentation of VCH Outstanding Contribution Awards, an interactive session on fundraising and income generation, and a short talk from the new Architectural Editor, Dr Ruth Slatter.

The day will conclude with a public lecture in Chancellor's Hall from Andrew Rumsey, Bishop of Ramsbury and Lead for Church Buildings and Cathedrals in the Church of England. If you are interested in attending (there is a requirement to book) please contact our secretary - [secretary@derbyshirevch.org](mailto:secretary@derbyshirevch.org).

### **... And finally**

Least you think our 'Meet the VCH Officers' series ended with our last newsletter – it hasn't. In our next eNews we will be featuring our treasurer and membership secretary Cathrin Wharton.

---

## **Derbyshire VCH contacts**

President: The Duke of Devonshire, KVCO, CBE, DL.

Chair: Lyn Pardo Roques. Email: [chairman@derbyshirevch.org](mailto:chairman@derbyshirevch.org).

Secretary: Becky Sheldon. Email: [secretary@derbyshirevch.org](mailto:secretary@derbyshirevch.org).

Membership Secretary/Treasurer: Cathrin Wharton, 24 Golden Valley, Riddings, Alfreton, Derbyshire, DE55 4ES. Tel. 07775 780045. Email: [treasurer@derbyshirevch.org](mailto:treasurer@derbyshirevch.org).

Publicity, Vice-Chairman and newsletter editor: Philip Cousins, 34 John Street, Brimington, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, S43 1ER. Tel. 01246 209528. Email: [publicity@derbyshirevch.org](mailto:publicity@derbyshirevch.org).

County Editor: Philip Riden, 9 Owen Falls Avenue, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, S41 0FR. Tel. 01246 554026. Email [philip.riden@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:philip.riden@nottingham.ac.uk).

Other Committee members: Professor Antony Cox, Mary Wiltshire, Anne-Marie Knowles.

## Our website and social media

Website – <https://derbyshirevch.org/>



Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/DerbyshireVCH>

Twitter account @VCH\_Derbyshire.

---

*Derbyshire VCH e-News is published by the Derbyshire VCH Trust and edited by Philip Cousins. © Derbyshire VCH Trust 2023.*