



**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of
Glendale Local History Society**

at the Cheviot Centre, Wooler, on 12th April 2023

1. Apologies for Absence: Janyce Davies, David Alston, Carolyn Brewster. Present were 33 members.

2. The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 11th April 2022 were agreed nem con, proposed by Derek Riley, seconded by Peter Davies.

3. Matters arising from the last minutes: none.

4. Chairman's Report from Alan Sture:

I can report on another successful year, and we now seem to have returned almost to a pre-pandemic normality. We have been able to run our usual programme of talks and newsletters and, after a shaky start last September, all of the meetings have been well-attended. We have also welcomed several visitors to our meetings, and on two occasions they numbered around 20. Hopefully, we may be able to encourage some of these to join the membership.

It is always a challenge to get good and new speakers for our meetings but I think the Society has managed admirably this season and will do so next year. This is down to our marvellous Programme Secretary, Rosemary Bell, whose amazing knowledge and network of contacts allows us to have such a varied and well-organised programme. I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank Rosemary for her outstanding contribution to GLHS.

We were particularly delighted to be able to reschedule the talk given by Dr. Noel Roy in late March, postponed from last December due to adverse weather. This was the best-attended meeting of the season and, without the aid of slides, Dr. Roy stood and held the entire audience enraptured for the 75 minutes he talked. His description of life as a rural GP in Glendale from the 1960s is the type of history that is often overlooked or lost, but one that we are keen to capture and preserve. For those of you who were unable to attend the meeting, a recording of the talk is available on the website (<http://www.glendalelocalhistory.org/talk-reports.html>). I also want to thank those members who provide write-ups of the talks and Derek Riley for putting them on the web site and keeping it up-to-date.

As of this AGM, we currently have 56 subscribing members including 5 new additions this past season with a promise of more to come after our popular February and March meetings. We were very saddened to hear of the passing of Derek Fairnington, long-time friend and lifetime member of the Society. We send our sincere condolences to his family. Derek was a mine of information with a vast collection of photographs, many of which were shared with the Society and, along with Roger Miket, Derek produced *Views of Wooler and Glendale District 1850-1950* to provide a permanent record of past-times Glendale. Other GLHS books and leaflets continue to sell well; we have recently received an additional print run of 250 copies of *Ten History Walks*. Income from our publications is helping to keep our finances in good shape.

Outside of our meetings, the committee and others are busy on a variety of activities: a small group is working on the transcription of Wooler Court Rolls and Glendale Dispensary documents; we are liaising with the Berwick Records Office on the cataloguing and appropriate storage and preservation

of our archives; and we will also have a stall at the Wooler Farmers' Market in August. Another project in the offing is the creation and publication of the history of healthcare in Glendale from the early part of the 19th century up to the millennium. None of these activities would be possible without the dedication and effort of a small number of members both within and outside of the Committee. I want to express my thanks to them for their industry on behalf of the Society, and the support they have given to me in my first year as Chair. Finally, I want to thank you, the membership, for your interest in the Society and to have allowed it to keep going for 46 years.

5. Treasurer's Report & presentation of accounts

In the absence of the Treasurer, the Chairman presented the accounts for the calendar year ending 31st December 2023, which had been examined by Mike Hetherington.

The accounts show a very healthy balance of £6958.38. The income from sales of books & leaflets enables us to reprint these publications to meet continuing demand.

6. Confirmation of officers of the Society and Team members

The meeting confirmed unanimously the Officers & Team members:

Chair: Alan Sture, **Secretary:** Pam Ratcliffe, **Treasurer:** Allan Colman

Team members: Rosemary Bell, Derek Riley, Jim Bird & Peter Davies

7. Comments from the floor

Denis Mullan thanked the Chairman for the varied programme of talks as part of the work to promote the history of Wooler & Glendale. The Chairman responded that it was truly a team effort.

Rosemary Bell outlined some ideas to make the format of meetings more interactive. She asked members to step up to join the Team so that she could retire!

8. Close of meeting