

VICTORIA  
COUNTY  
HISTORY



Shropshire

Annual meeting 23 October 2021

THE VICTORIA HISTORY OF SHROPSHIRE

# WEM

Judith Everard, James Bowen and Wendy Horton

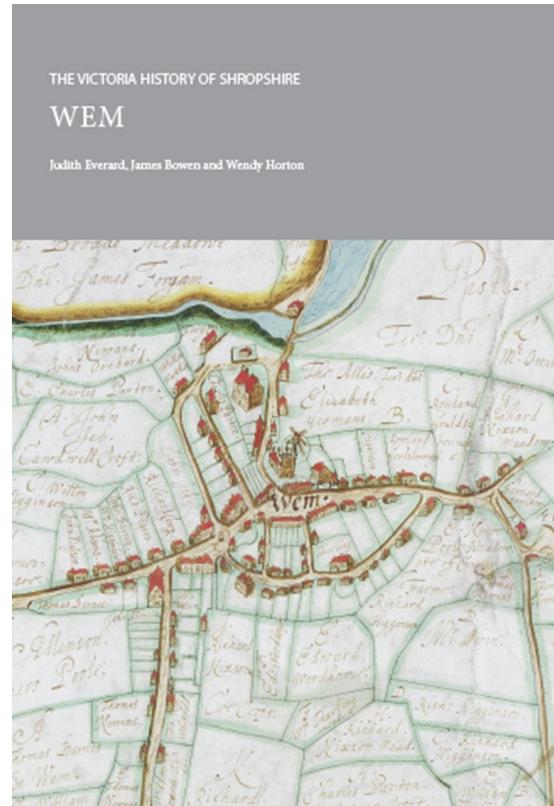


# Committee membership

- Our loss of Chris Fountain
- New Officers
- Cathryn Ross-Talbot (Secretary)
- Mary McKenzie (Treasurer)
- Other committee members (Dr Morn Capper, Giles Carey).

# Wem (Urban)

- Formal launch in Wem on 30 November 2019.



Current research

# **CURRENT RESEARCH**

# Wem Rural

- Accounts of eight townships and an introduction post on the website in August/September 2021
- Decision taken to put Edstaston and Coton to one side for the time being until we can secure additional funding.
- Our visit to Edstaston church: ambitions to place this puzzling building in some form of context.



Left to right  
James Bowen  
Paul Barnwell  
(Oxford)  
Rev. Deborah  
Walton  
Judith Everard  
Wendy Horton

# Shrewsbury part two

- Revised text on Nonconformity added to the website in the Spring of 2020 with some smaller sections later in the year
- The work of the nonconformist group (Dr Rosemary Thorne, Lyn Leach and Jonathan Davies) coming to fruition and their text will be published in November
- Judith Everard and Wendy Horton working on the five parish churches with medieval origins: Dr Penny Harris gathering material on the nineteenth- and twentieth century churches

# Newport

- Great activity by the Newport History Society and its members on a number of fronts
- Completion of the transcript of the ‘Lloyd George’ (Valuation Office) survey of Newport and surrounding parishes of c. 1910.
- Transcript by Linda Fletcher and Nicky Huish of the William Hill surveys of the 1680s: to form a publication in 2021-2.
- Will transcription
- The first draft text completed (but not published yet).

# Lockdown transcribing

- Returns of licences for Nonconformist meeting houses of 1852

## Newport and district sources:

- Newport rates
- Church Aston and Chetwynd rates

Particular thanks to Janice Cox, Peter Everall, Malcolm Price and Tony Ostrowski

Would like to have a transcribing group – its first job to tackle Pidgeon's *Salopian Annals*

# **PLANS FOR 2021-2**

# Ambitions (1/3)

## Wem

- To finish the account of Wem Rural but, we need some additional money to do Edstaston and Coton ... and then there is Lacon and Soulton.
- A further short: perhaps Shawbury

# Ambitions (2/3)

## Shrewsbury part two

- To complete the parish churches section in 2022
- One more section to be finalised and published
- To secure funding for the account of the buildings and built environment of the town, perhaps leading to a standalone book

# Ambitions (3/3)

## Newport

- Chief ambition: to bring in some money to work on Newport
- Medieval Newport, leading initially to a standalone book
- Newport buildings and townscapes, another standalone book
- Post-medieval Newport, including the costs of a volunteer coordinator and researcher/writer

# Projected outcomes for 2021-2

## Shrewsbury

- Nonconformist gazetteer
- Parish churches section (?publication)
- Other text to be posted on website

## Wem Rural

- Would like to think that we could deliver one other township (probably Edstaston)

## Newport

- William Hill and other surveys for Newport, Edgmond and Longford (publication)
- First Newport texts on website

# Website

- [www.vchshropshire.org](http://www.vchshropshire.org)
- Our accounts for 2020-1 will be posted there next week
- Sign up there for our newsletter

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