

## **NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STONELEIGH HISTORY SOCIETY HELD ON 25 FEBRUARY 2014 IN STONELEIGH VILLAGE HALL**

This was the best attended meeting of the Society since its inception, with 20 visitors and all but 4 SHS members. **Apologies** from David and Jean Vaughan.

**Sheila Woolf welcomed everyone and then made a series of announcements.**

The 3rd AGM would be held on Tuesday 25 March. Reports from the Chair and Treasurer would be presented and Committee elections held (nomination forms available for collection at this meeting). After the AGM Nat Alcock would give a talk about the Weaver's House in Spon Street, Coventry; members of Stoneleigh WI had been invited to attend. A follow up visit to the House would take place on 27 May (names to be taken at the March and April meetings, WI members to be invited, space permitting).

Members were thanked for paying their 2014 subscriptions in good time (only one still outstanding)

On 7 March, in Stoneleigh Village Hall, there will be a talk about Alison Evans, a great niece of George Eliot. Profits to the roof and stonework appeal. Tickets from Jane Taylor.

On 29 April our SHS meeting will be "When Stoneleigh Went to War", given by Sheila.

On 9 May, in the Church, there will be an evening of entertainment, literary readings, local history and music in commemoration of those who fought in the Great War of 1914-18. Proceeds to the repair of the church fabric. Tickets from Sarah Ballinger.

The Society would mount a display in the Leigh Chapel ready for 'Leamington Looks Back' festival 25 June-6 July and the village Duck Race on 19 July. This would include the results of extensive research undertaken by Lisa Reay and Sheila Woolf about the men from Stoneleigh who fought in the Great War and survived. On 27 July there will be an event at Stoneleigh Abbey on the Leighs and the Great War.

Warwickshire History Society, to which the SHS is affiliated, had published a list of forthcoming visits. These can be viewed on their website [www.warwickshirehistory.org.uk](http://www.warwickshirehistory.org.uk). The Society is running an essay competition; prize £250 for unpublished research.

The SHS Committee had met on 13 February, and a programme of activities had been agreed. These would be announced shortly once all details had been confirmed.

The village school logbooks were now available up to 1923.

In July 2015 an event was being planned to mark the 200th anniversary of the baptism of Sir Henry Parkes, including the unveiling of a memorial plaque. More details later.

**NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STONELEIGH HISTORY SOCIETY HELD ON 25  
FEBRUARY 2014 IN STONELEIGH VILLAGE HALL**

Members were reminded about the Stoneleigh Calendar photographic competition which aims to raise money for the memorial plaque.

The SHS website was up and running - [www.stoneleighhistorysociety.org.uk](http://www.stoneleighhistorysociety.org.uk) and material was being added to it on a regular basis.

**Talk**

Sheila then introduced Shirley Ball who gave an illustrated talk on Recollections of Stoneleigh. Many of the people featured in the photographs were recognised by members of the audience who all enjoyed the trip down Memory Lane (to be continued in the autumn).