

## B&CLHS Summer News 2026

### Our neighbours' event, 18-22 August

The Hounslow and District History Society is promoting a 5-day exhibition, with a talk every day, in Hounslow. It has been co-ordinated by James Marshall who is the Membership Secretary of H&DHS and our Assistant Editor. It provides a chance to discover some of the history of the villages which make up the parts of the Borough of Hounslow which we do not cover.

#### HOUNSLOW AND DISTRICT'S HISTORY ON DISPLAY

AT THE  
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HALL  
CHAPEL ROAD  
HOUNSLOW, TW3 1UF  
(Behind the Treaty Centre, at the corner  
of Hanworth Road, opposite Douglas Road.)

TUESDAY-SATURDAY  
AUGUST 18th - 22nd  
11 AM - 4 PM.

Come and meet...

HOUNSLOW & DISTRICT  
HISTORY SOCIETY  
[www.hounslowhistory.org.uk](http://www.hounslowhistory.org.uk)

#### Illustrated Talks Daily 2.30pm During the Exhibition

##### Tuesday 18th August:

Hounslow Heath Aerodrome and the First Flight to Australia

##### Wednesday 19th August: Cranford Through Time

Cranford's name derives from the River Crane flowing through. In the Middle Ages when its church changed allegiance to St Dunstan, the village retained loyalty to its former dedication being known as Cranford St John. Today a quaint lock-up remains in the High Street where once thieves and drunkards were kept to cool their heels.

##### Thursday 20th August:

100 Years Ago, Hounslow During the General Strike

##### Friday 21st August:

Bedfont Through Time

For hundreds of years Bedfont, a small rural village, stood among the wastelands of Hounslow Heath. Now it boasts two surviving Manor Houses, first mention of Fawns is 1428 while Pates, for 200 years owned by Christ's Hospital to accrue rentals, dates from the 15th/16th centuries.

##### Saturday 22nd August:

Hounslow Borough A Series of Towns and Villages

A chance to explore the eccentricities and unusual features of each: a rare sundial, peacock topiary, parkland that became an airfield, abundant rivers, a village cage, some 350 year old almshouses, and much more.

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### Commemorating the Chiswick V2, 6.44pm, 8 September

Each year Society representatives place a wreath at the black granite memorial in Staveley Road. It was installed in 2004 on the 60th anniversary of the first V2 to land in England, in a joint project between B&CLHS and the Battlefields Trust London Chapter. Our concern was to remember those who died, not to celebrate the science of rocketry, hence the annual wreath laying. Join the small crowd when the wreath is laid at exactly the time it landed in Chiswick, 6.44pm.

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### 'Tidefest' 6 September, volunteers needed!

The Society is will be running a stall at Strand on the Green with photo displays and books for sale at this free, community festival which celebrates the tidal River Thames. First held in 2014 on World Rivers Day, it has become an annual fixture. Volunteer helpers will be very welcome; if you would like to help on to help run the stall on the day should contact our Vice-Chairman, David Shailes, on the Society's email – [info@brentfordandchiswicklhs.org.uk](mailto:info@brentfordandchiswicklhs.org.uk).

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## ***The Brentford & Chiswick Local History Journal***

Our handsome and readable *Journal*, sharing recent research, is run entirely by skilled volunteers. Julia Philips, who has designed the layout for the last two issues will not be able to do so in 2027 as she is committed to another project. We are looking for a successor to work with Val Bott and James Marshall, the editors.

It is not intense work, as articles are assembled by the end of January, then they are edited to fit, tweaked to match our house style, their images checked for permissions and fees required and sometimes a test layout is done. Then work on the whole layout begins. We aim to have the final artwork with the printer by the end of April for distribution at our mid-May AGM. We can pay a modest honorarium to the layout designer. If you would be able to take on this role or know someone who might be interested please contact Val Bott on

[valbottmuseums@gmail.com](mailto:valbottmuseums@gmail.com)

We are already assembling ideas for the contents so if you have an idea for an article, please let Val know

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## **Annual General Meeting**

The Weston Studio at Hogarth's House proved to be an attractive venue for our AGM with a much larger attendance than usual. Currently there is a special exhibition of the 70 short-listed works submitted for the first ever Hogarth Art Prize. The garden is still surviving despite the excessively hot weather; admission to house and garden are free and they are well worth a visit. Details here: [https://hogarthshouse.org/events\\_exhibitions/the-hogarth-prize/](https://hogarthshouse.org/events_exhibitions/the-hogarth-prize/)

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## **Technical expertise**

The committee is keen to reintroduce hybrid meetings which can be viewed via Zoom as well as in person as soon as practicable. Help from an individual member or a small team of members to make this a reality would be hugely welcome!

In the future we plan to upgrade the website at [brentfordandchiswicklhs.org](http://brentfordandchiswicklhs.org). Val Bott and James Wisdom created it about 15 years ago with the help of a professional designer and have maintained it ever since. They now have less capacity to work on the site. It is rich in information about the history of our area, much drawn from out-of-print *Journals*. Katie Hinchliffe, our Hon Secretary, has been uploading articles and there are many more to add. Improving the subscription process and asking for information would also be useful. Work on this could offer members a chance to get involved and later to work on enhancing the whole site.

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## **Autumn Talks Programme, Chiswick Memorial Club – save the dates!**

The full programme will be sent out shortly. Meanwhile save the third Monday of the month for talks on Thornycrofts Coastal Motor Boats on 21 September, Patsey Hendren, sporting hero, on 19 October, the gardener at Chiswick House on 16 November and Goddards Brentford store on 21 December.

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