



Annual General Meeting 2024

Brief information about each Proposed Trustee

Alastair Ayton

Alastair is the assistant editor of the Journal of the Mortimer History Society. He is also a member of the MHS Essay Prize judging panel. He graduated with a PhD in History from the University of St Andrews in December 2020, having successfully defended his doctoral thesis ('Politics, Policy and Power: the Marcher Lords and the English Crown in the March of Wales, 1254–1272) in his viva voce examination. He also holds an MPhil in Medieval History from the University of Cambridge and a BA (Hons) from the University of London. He has been an active member of the MHS since February 2021, and he has contributed to several MHS events.

Mike Beazley

Mike is the MHS's Hon Treasurer. He served in the Army for 35 years. He then worked for a national charity and finally, part-time, as an assessor of charities for the Charities Commission. He has been involved in charity grant-making and trusteeship for many years. He has a MA in Financial Management and an ACCA Diploma and has been treasurer of several charities and independent assessor of others. He is a keen amateur medieval historian and re-enactor, which he employs as part of the MHS's schools programme, and he is a Ludlow town tour guide.

Kathy Cowell

Kathy started studying Architecture after leaving school but after two years changed course, becoming a teacher of Mathematics for nearly 40 years. She continued her studies throughout her career and completed an MBA in Educational Management in 2001. In the two years of studying Architecture Kathy developed a great interest in the history of buildings and a love of Ludlow which led her to choose to retire there in 2016. Since then, she has been able to develop her interests and has volunteered as a steward in St. Laurence's Church and as a Town Tour guide. Kathy has been very lucky to have had parents who completed extensive research into her family tree. She is very proud of her descent from the Mortimer family, and this has fuelled her interest into the history of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries.

John Fleming

John was born and educated in the United States. He had a successful 24-year career in banking before retiring in 2008. He received an MA in Medieval History from King's College London, graduating with Distinction in 2010. John has authored *The Welsh Marcher Lordships II: The South-west*, which is due for publication in the spring of 2023. He lives in Sevenoaks in Kent.

Annie Garthwaite

Annie enjoyed a thirty-year career in business before changing career to write full time. Her debut novel, CECILY was published by Penguin in July 2021 and her second, THE KING'S MOTHER will publish in July 2024. Both reflect her lifelong interest in fifteenth century history, the Wars of the Roses and, in particular, the House of York. Annie is the Vice-Chair of the Society, and editor of *Mortimer Matters*, the Society's quarterly magazine.

Elizabeth Holley

Elizabeth taught English in two Colleges of Further Education before training to be a political agent. She was the Agent for a Surrey constituency before taking an executive post in the party's headquarters. Her role was to interview Members of Parliament in order to write newsletters on political matters of importance to expatriates, to support expatriates where necessary and facilitate visits by politicians to supporters' societies overseas. Finally, Elizabeth and her husband set up a company which trained business executives and other professionals in communication skills. She had responsibility for the MHS books and merchandise for over two years. She is producing a back catalogue of *Mortimer Matters* and also proofreads it.

Philip Hume

Philip is the Chair of the Society and has a lead role in organising the programme of events and conferences, and the Online Seminar Group. During his career, Philip worked in the voluntary and community sector for a number of years. Subsequently, his roles in local government included development advice and support to voluntary organisations before becoming head of a service responsible for corporate policy and governance. Philip was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London in 2022. He is the creator and editor of a three-volume series of books on the Welsh Marcher Lordships, and author of vol 1, *The Welsh Marcher Lordships I: Central and North* (Logaston Press, March 2021); he has written *On the Trail of the Mortimers'* (Logaston Press, 2016), *On the Trail*

of the Mortimers in the Welsh Marches (Logaston Press, 2022), is a co-author of *The Ludlow Castle Heraldic Roll* (Logaston Press, 2019), and author of articles in various journals. In January 2024, Philip started a part-time PhD at Swansea University – his research will be based on the life and career of Roger Mortimer (d.1282). He gives talks to many historical societies about the Welsh Marcher lordships and the Mortimers.

Angela Iliff

Much of Angela's working life was spent in Australia, always in the area of administration. She worked in a variety of roles from being the youngest female account executive in an Australian advertising agency, to organising and coordinating fundraising events, managing the day-to-day running and the maintenance of the financial records of a fish factory. On returning to the UK in 2003, Angela joined the Soil Association. Since her retirement as their governance administrator, she has been able to indulge her lifelong interest in medieval history with a particular interest in the lives of women of that period, closely followed by an interest in costume and textiles. Angela was Membership Secretary of the Mortimer History Society from September 2019, and is now the Secretary since 2022, and is also a member of the Richard III Society and the Hon Treasurer of one of their branches.

Yve James

After a career in teaching, ending at headship level, Yve took over general management of the engineering company her husband had started. This continued until they successfully sold the business at their retirement.

Yve has served as an officer on several charity committees and belonged to a study group in Shrewsbury, transcribing and translating medieval Latin manor court documents; she was also a member of an Anglo-Saxon group which met at Keele University.

At present, Yve is the co-ordinator for the Society's Medieval Document's Research Group, Chair of the Society's Bursary, plus prints and mails Mortimer Matters etc to members who have no internet access. In addition to her long-standing involvement in the MHS, Yve has been involved in a number of organisations (though many were shelved due to her late husband's ill-health): Herefordshire Family History Society (Chairman); National Burial Indexing Project for Herefordshire (co-ordinator); Kimbolton Millennium Book (editor-in-chief); Kimbolton Parish Plan (production sub-group member); and, in addition, produced the monthly Parish Magazine for 25 years.

Clive Jupp

From school, Clive spent 22 years in the Banking Sector operating and supporting IT Systems. Following this, Clive worked for 25 years as a Systems Engineer for QinetiQ (formerly the Defence Evaluation & Research Agency) until retiring in 2022. History, medieval in particular, has been a passion as an enthusiastic amateur since his early years. Clive was a past treasurer of the MHS and has since retirement returned to the work of his youth looking after the MHS website.

Sophie Ogilvie

Sophie is a Commercial Property solicitor who has recently relocated from Kent to Sarn, near the medieval market town of Montgomery in the Welsh Marches. In addition to her law degree, Sophie received an MA in Medieval History from the University of Kent in 2021, graduating with a distinction. She has been a member of the Society's Medieval Documents Research Group since 2019 and has recently helped to organise the Society's events as a member of the programme committee. Sophie is also currently working on The Lossenham Project, a community heritage and research project which aims to investigate the medieval and early modern history of the areas surrounding the River Rother. As part of the project, she is helping to transcribe and translate probate materials and assisting with the excavation of the archaeological remains of Lossenham Priory.

Pamela Thom-Rowe

Pamela Thom-Rowe has a lifelong interest in social and folk history. After a lengthy career in the NHS she now researches and writes about her main interest, the context of folklore and the impact of landscape upon tradition and folk belief, particularly within the Welsh Marches. She has an MA in Celtic Studies from the University of Wales Trinity St David and maintains an active interest in archaeology. Pamela is a member of the Mortimer History Society Medieval Documents Group and a member of the Programme Committee. Pamela is a member of the Folklore Society and works as a volunteer guide and site monitor for English Heritage.