

OXFORDSHIRE LOCAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION (OLHA)

WYCHWOOD: THE FOREST THEN AND NOW

A study day

to be held at New Beaconsfield Hall, Station Road, Shipton under Wychwood, OX7 6BQ

on Saturday 11th May 2019

Established before the Norman Conquest, Wychwood was a royal hunting reserve which by 1200 covered much of west Oxfordshire north of Witney. Mediaeval kings imposed forest law to protect the deer, timber and other woodland resources, which were also crucially important for surrounding villages. Later the area acquired a reputation for lawlessness "filled with poachers, deer stealers, thieves and pilferers", as Arthur Young wrote. Wychwood was not disafforested until 1857, when much of the remaining woodland was cleared. The village of Shipton under Wychwood has many attractive cottages of Cotswold stone, a church tower of c.1200, a fifteenth-century inn and a Jacobean manor. It is accessible by bus or train.

9.30 Registration and coffee

10.00 WYCHWOOD FOREST 800-2000

Dr Simon Townley is editor of the Victoria County History of Oxfordshire. He has recently completed a history of Wychwood Forest and Cornbury Park for the VCH's forthcoming volume on the area, which will be published in the autumn.

11.15 Coffee break

11.45 THE WYCHWOOD PROJECT

Neil Clennell is Chief Executive of the Wychwood Project. He is a biologist with twenty five years' experience in wildlife conservation and habitat restoration, and a particular interest in landscape ecology.

12.30 OLHA's ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

AGM papers will be circulated at the meeting.

1.00 LUNCH

There are several pubs in the village, or packed lunches can be eaten at the hall.

2.15 GUIDED WALK TO THE WILD GARDEN

Members of the Wychwoods Local History Society will guide us around the village, ending at the Wild Garden, which was once part of the grounds of Shipton Court.

3.30 CLOSE



BOOKING FORM AGM and *Wychwood: the Forest Then and Now* at Shipton under Wychwood, 11th May 2019

Please book and pay on-line at <http://www.olha.org.uk/events/study-days>

OR complete this form and send it with a cheque for **£10 per person** made payable to 'OLHA' to:

Liz Woolley, 138 Marlborough Road, Oxford, OX1 4LS, (01865 242760, membership@olha.org.uk)

Name(s) Local Society if applicable

Number of places at £10 per person Your e-mail address

Please tick this box (and write your e-mail address above) if you would like an acknowledgement by e-mail.